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3 Title: Annual Deductible Payment Options
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5 Introduced by: David Whalen, MD, for the Kent County Delegation
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7 Original Author: Megan Edison, MD
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9 Referred To: Reference Committee A
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11 House Action: **APPROVED**
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14 Whereas, many health insurance plans require an annual deductible amount that must be
15 paid before any insurance coverage “kicks in” at the beginning of each calendar year, and
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17 Whereas, the cost of a single dose of some medications, a single treatment, and/or a single
18 procedure may lead to a bill that exceeds the full deductible amount in a single payment, and
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20 Whereas, the need to pay the full amount of the deductible for a single billing episode may
21 create undue financial hardship for some patients to pay at the beginning of the calendar year, and
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23 Whereas, the lack of an option to pay the deductible in a quarterly or monthly manner may
24 lead some patients to stop taking or delay a potentially lifesaving medication/treatment/procedure,
25 thus placing the patient’s health at risk, and
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27 Whereas, the patient’s awareness of this concern leads some patients to avoid refilling a
28 medication or incurring the health care cost without seeking financial assistance of the medical care
29 facility providing the care (or the pharmacy filling the medication), and
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31 Whereas, once the payment of the deductible has occurred (i.e., often near the end of the
32 calendar year), many patients try to schedule treatments and procedures, leading to an imbalance
33 in the clinical schedules of health care facilities with possible scheduling/access strain; therefore, be
34 it
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36 **RESOLVED:** That MSMS work with the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial
37 Services and third-party payers to explore options for the provision of quarterly and/or monthly
38 payments for the annual deductible amount for all patients; and be it further
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40 **RESOLVED:** That MSMS work with the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial
41 Services to provide public education regarding all available payment options for health care
42 insurance that will benefit the people of the state of Michigan.
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45 WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: \$12,000-\$24,000

Relevant MSMS Policy: None

Relevant AMA Policy: None