

RESOLUTION 2019 A

**SUBMITTED TO:** Michigan Osteopathic Association House of Delegates  
**SUBMITTED BY:** Northern Michigan Osteopathic Association  
**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve as Amended  
**SUBJECT:** Expansion of Medicaid in All States

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1 **Whereas**, The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) allows states to expand  
2 Medicaid coverage to persons whose income is below 138% of the federal poverty level  
3 (\$16,753 for an individual or \$34,638 for a family of four in 2019), with the federal government  
4 paying 93% of the expansion cost for new enrollees in 2019 and 90% in 2020 and beyond; and

5 **Whereas**, the PPACA has resulted in a reduction in the healthcare uninsured rate in the United  
6 States from 16% in 2010 to 8.8% in Q1 2018<sup>i</sup>; and

7 **Whereas**, states that have enacted Medicaid expansion have experienced a reduction in  
8 uninsured patients to 8.7% and states that did not expand Medicaid still have 18.4% uninsured;  
9 and

10 **Whereas**, the Michigan Osteopathic Association supported the Medicaid Expansion with  
11 targeted lobbying efforts in the State of Michigan; and

12 **Whereas**, Michigan's Medicaid expansion enrollment exceeded 600,000 individuals by March  
13 2015, and serves as an effective model for states that have not as yet enacted Medicaid  
14 expansion<sup>ii</sup>; and

15 **Whereas**, as of January 2019, 14 states (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri,  
16 North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin,  
17 Wyoming) have failed to enact legislation to expand Medicaid eligibility; and

18 **Whereas**, research shows that Medicaid expansion has helped to reduce disparities in coverage  
19 by income and age, has had positive economic outcomes in expansion states, and infant  
20 mortality rates have declined in Medicaid expansion states and risen in states that have not  
21 enacted Medicaid expansion<sup>iii</sup>; and

22 **Whereas**, studies provide evidence that Medicaid expansion reduces mortality from drug  
23 overdoses and increases access to treatment<sup>iv</sup>; therefore be it

24 **Resolved**, the Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA) reaffirms it's support of Medicaid  
25 expansion; and be it further

26 **RESOLVED**, that the moa requests that the AOA incorporate Medicaid expansion as a top  
27 priority to improve patient access to care and to improve health outcomes; and be it further

1 **RESOLVED**, that the MOA forward this resolution to the AOA to support Medicaid expansion in  
2 the 14 states that have not as yet enacted relevant legislation to expand Medicaid eligibility to  
3 uninsured individuals who meet the definitions to qualify based on the 138% of federal poverty  
4 level as provided in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.healthaffairs.org/d0/10.1377/hblog20180913.896261/full/>

<sup>ii</sup> <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/03/31/snyder-medicaid-expansion-reaches-residents/70731872/>

<sup>iii</sup> <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/the-effects-of-medicaid-expansion-under-the-aca-updated-findings-from-a-literature-review-march-2018/>

<sup>iv</sup> <https://ldi.upenn.edu/healthpolicysense/medicaid-expansion-and-opioid-epidemic>

Explanatory Statement:

This resolution has been revised since passing in the Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA) 2018 House of Delegates (HOD). It is being re-introduced in its updated form in an effort to again propose it at the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) HOD. The attempt to previously pass this resolution failed due to opposition from states such as Florida and Texas, however, the need to seriously promote the affordable care act and Medicaid expansion still exists on a national level.