

RESOLUTION 2019 C

SUBMITTED TO: Michigan Osteopathic Association House of Delegates
SUBMITTED BY: Ryan Christensen, DO & M. Shane Patterson, DO, MCOMA Delegates
RECOMMENDATION: Approve as Amended
SUBJECT: Obesity Treatment Reimbursement in Primary Care

1 **Whereas**, obesity is a public health crisis which costs the US over \$147 billion annually
2 as of 2008 in lost productivity, medical care, morbidity and disability; and

3 **Whereas**, the prevalence of obesity was 39.8% and affected about 93.3 million of US
4 adults in 2015~2016ⁱ; and

5 **Whereas**, Obesity-related conditions include heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and
6 certain types of cancer that are some of the leading causes of preventable, premature
7 death; and

8 **Whereas**, ensuring physician reimbursement for obesity treatment be a priority to reduce
9 morbidity and mortality of the population; and

10 **Whereas**, it is well within the scope of practice of ALL primary care physicians to treat
11 this condition and obesity is not currently a payable diagnosis for primary care; be it

12 **Resolved**, that the Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA) publicly affirms and
13 advocates that all diagnosis codes for obesity and morbid obesity be a billable and
14 reimbursable diagnostic code for any and all practicing primary care physicians; and, be
15 it further

16 **Resolved**, that the MOA work with insurers, payors, legislators, and other stakeholders to
17 ensure access to treatment for obesity to address this public health epidemic; and, be it
18 further

19 **Resolved**, the MOA forward this resolution to the AOA for national consideration and
20 adoption.

ⁱ Centers for Disease Control Overweight and Obesity,
<https://www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/adult.html>; Accessed March 15, 2019.