

RESOLUTION 2019 D

SUBMITTED TO: Michigan Osteopathic Association House of Delegates
SUBMITTED BY: Ryan Christensen, DO & M. Shane Patterson, DO, MCOMA Delegates
RECOMMENDATION: Approve as Amended
SUBJECT: Resolution to Recognize Health Care As A Human Right

- 1 **Whereas**, the World Health Organization recognizes “the highest attainable standard of
2 health as a fundamental right of every human being,” and “the right to health includes
3 access to timely, acceptable, and affordable health care of appropriate quality,”ⁱ and
4 **Whereas**, the United States ranks 33th out of 34 countries in the Organization for
5 Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in percentage of insured population
6 (with 88.5%), with nearly every other country at > 98%ⁱⁱ, and
7 **Whereas**, 25-30 million Americans are still uninsured after implementation of the
8 Affordable Care Act (ACA), and the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office estimates
9 that this number would increase to 48 million, and continue to increase annually, with an
10 ACA repealⁱⁱⁱ, and
11 **Resolved**, that the Michigan Osteopathic Association recognizes that health care is a
12 human right for every person¹, not a privilege; and, be it further
13 **Resolved** that the Michigan Osteopathic Association forward this resolution to the AOA
14 House of Delegates with the appropriate changes for a unified voice of adoption.

ⁱ World Health Organization Media Center. “Health and Human Rights.” Fact Sheet N°232, Dec 2015. Accessed Feb 2017. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs323/en/>

ⁱⁱ OECD (2015), Health at a Glance 2015: OECD Indicators, OECD Publishing, Paris. http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/health_glance-2015-en

ⁱⁱⁱ Congressional Budget Office. “How Repealing Portions of the Affordable Care Act Would Affect Health Insurance Coverage and Premiums.” Jan 2017. <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/52371>

^{iv} Bauchner, H. “Health Care in the United States: A Right or a Privilege.” JAMA. 2017; 317(1):29. <http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2595503>

¹ Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), the editor-in-chief of JAMA voiced a hope that all physicians and professional societies will “speak with a single voice and say that health care is a basic right for every person, and not a privilege to be available and affordable only for a majority^{iv}.”