

RESOLUTION 2019 H

SUBMITTED TO: Michigan Osteopathic Association House of Delegates
SUBMITTED BY: Algirdas A. Juocys, OCOMA Delegate
RECOMMENDATION: Approved as Amended
SUBJECT: HPV immunization for Primary Prevention of Cancer

- 1 **Whereas**, Human Papillomavirus (HPV) causes cervical, vulvar, vaginal, penile, anal, and
2 oropharyngeal cancer; and
- 3 **Whereas**, an estimated 79 million Americans are actively infected with HPV and 14 million
4 Americans are newly infected each year through sexual transmission; and
- 5 **Whereas**, there are an estimated more than 33,000 cancer diagnoses each year in the United
6 States caused by strains of HPV; and
- 7 **Whereas**, HPV vaccines have repeatedly been shown to be safe and effective for primary
8 prevention of cancer; and
- 9 **Whereas**, bivalent, quadrivalent and 9-valent HPV vaccinations have been shown to prevent the
10 contraction and spread of viruses that cause cancer; and
- 11 **Whereas**, various Immunization Task Forces recommend routine vaccination in adolescence;
12 and
- 13 **Whereas**, vaccination against HPV reduces the financial burden on the healthcare system by
14 reducing costs of screening and treatment for HPV-caused diseases; and
- 15 **Whereas**, due to misconceptions and unfounded opposition, HPV vaccination rates are lower
16 than rates for other vaccine-preventable disease with only 16% of the eligible population fully
17 immunized; and
- 18 **Whereas**, unvaccinated individuals pose a risk to the population due to the communicable nature
19 of the cancer-causing virus and therefore should be approached as a public health issue; and
- 20 **Whereas**, State-level mandatory vaccination policies increase vaccination rates; and
- 21 **Whereas**, Rhode Island, Virginia, and the District of Columbia currently require HPV
22 vaccination for school attendance and there is pending legislation in multiple states relating to
23 HPV vaccination practices; therefore, be it
- 24 **Resolved**, that the Michigan Osteopathic Association advocate for HPV immunization for all
25 adolescents.