

46 measured by their ability to see a doctor due to cost, insurance status, flu vaccination
47 rates, and prenatal care⁶; and

48
49 **WHEREAS**, Comprehensive, affordable healthcare access is associated with
50 decreased mortality, length of hospital stays, earlier cancer detection and improved
51 cardiovascular and diabetes management¹⁰; and

52
53 **WHEREAS**, the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights Article 25
54 recognizes that health and access to medical care are basic human rights¹¹; and

55
56 **WHEREAS**, the World Health Organisation Constitution emphasizes the
57 fundamental right to health, and further defines the core components of the right to
58 health to include availability, accessibility, acceptability, and high quality health care^{12,13};
59 and

60
61 **WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization has declared that the right to health
62 must be enjoyed without discrimination on the grounds of age, race, ethnicity or any
63 other factor¹³; and

64
65 **WHEREAS**, the Sustained Development Goals 3.8 developed by the UN General
66 Assembly highlight universal healthcare coverage and protection from catastrophic out
67 of pocket expenses as a necessity to obtain good health¹⁴; and

68
69 **WHEREAS**, the American Medical Association supports health as a basic human
70 right and recognizes the provision of health care services, in addition to optimizing
71 social determinants of health, as an ethical obligation of society¹⁵; and therefore

72
73 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that our OSMA acknowledges health and access to health
74 care as fundamental human rights; and be it further

75
76 **RESOLVED**, that our OSMA supports efforts to increase access to universal,
77 timely, and affordable high quality healthcare as a necessary ethical duty to secure the
78 rights to health and access to healthcare.

79
80 **Fiscal Note:** \$ (Sponsor)
81 \$ 500 (Staff)

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OSMA Policy:

Policy 6 – 2023 -- Increased Access to Health Care

1. The OSMA continues to express its support for increased access to comprehensive, affordable, high-quality health care.
2. The OSMA rescinds current Policy 11 – 2010 – Promoting Free Market-Based Solutions to Health Care Reform.

Policy 16 – 2021 – Amend Policy 05—2011: Universal Health Insurance Access

1. The OSMA amends Policy 05—2011 to read:

Policy 05 - 2011 – Universal Health Insurance Access

1. The OSMA reaffirms support for universal health insurance access through market and public based initiatives to create incentives for the purchase of coverage.
2. OSMA will continue to support legislative and regulatory reform to achieve universal health insurance access.

Policy 01-2017 – Supporting Changes in Health Care Policy that Increase Coverage and Expand Benefits

1. The OSMA supports the elimination of pre-existing condition exclusions from health insurance contracts and supports providing all Ohio citizens with high quality health care.
2. The OSMA opposes changes to healthcare policy that would decrease access to health care coverage for the citizens of Ohio.
3. The OSMA supports the inclusion of young adults up to age 26 on their parents'/guardians' health care plans.
4. The OSMA supports health care policies that allow states and institutions the right to explore and develop individualized models for covering the uninsured.

Policy 05 – 2011 – Universal Health Insurance Coverage

1. The OSMA reaffirms support for universal health insurance access for all Americans through market based initiatives to create incentives for the purchase of coverage.
2. OSMA and AMA will pursue legislative and regulatory reform to achieve universal health insurance access through free market solutions.

Policy 63-1994 – Health-System Reform

1. The OSMA supports only those proposed changes in our health-care system that are in the best interest of patients and which assure that all Americans continue to receive high quality medical care.
2. The OSMA supports the following principles: (1) All Americans shall have access to health insurance; (2) The right of patients to choose their physician freely; (3) The right of patients and their physicians to make medical decisions.
3. The OSMA supports the elimination of underwriting requirements which interfere with the establishment of small business pools.

- 184 4. The OSMA supports the elimination of pre-existing condition exclusions from health
185 insurance contracts.
- 186 5. The OSMA supports guaranteed portability of health insurance.
- 187 6. The OSMA supports, for the medically indigent, the adoption of health insurance
188 vouchers and/or tax credits as one of the mechanisms of providing them health-care
189 coverage.
- 190 7. The OSMA supports both Medical Savings Accounts and Medical IRAs as
191 acceptable methods to fund health care.
- 192 8. The OSMA supports legislative health-care plans which include fee-for-service as a
193 method of payment for physician services.
- 194 9. The OSMA supports the position that free competition and meaningful medical
195 professional liability reform are the more effective ways to contain health-care costs
196 rather than global budgets and spending caps.
197