**Resolution to Recognize Health Care As A Human Right**

Author(s): [Name(s) and State Chapter]

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization recognizes “the highest attainable standard of health as a fundamental right of every human being”, and “the right to health includes access to timely, acceptable, and affordable health care of appropriate quality,”1 and

WHEREAS, the United States ranks 33th out of 34 countries in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in percentage of insured population (with 88.5%), with nearly every other country at > 98%2, and

WHEREAS, 25-30 million Americans are still uninsured after implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office estimates that this number would increase to 48 million, and continue to increase annually, with an ACA repeal3,and

WHEREAS, in a recent editorial in the 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.”4

BE IT RESOLVED, that the *[Your State Academy]* recognizes that health care is a human right for every person, not a privilege,

AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the *[Your State Academy]* will bring a resolution to the AAFP Congress of Delegates to similarly recognize health care as a human right.

Citations

1. 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/>
2. OECD (2015), Health at a Glance 2015: OECD Indicators, OECD Publishing, Paris. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/health_glance-2015-en>
3. 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>
4. 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