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


