Whereas, In order to practice clinical medicine in an unsupervised setting, all physicians (international medical graduates and domestic graduates) must be licensed by the medical licensing board of the state where they plan to practice; and

Whereas, International medical graduates (IMGs) must be certified by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) and must pass USMLE Steps 1, Step 2 CK and Step 2 CS; and

Whereas, When a physician receives ECFMG certification, he/she may apply for an ACGME accredited residency; and

Whereas, Many ECFMG-certified IMGs are waiting to get into a residency program, but are unable to obtain a residency due to the limited number of residency slots available; and

Whereas, A significant shortage of primary care physicians is predicted ranging between 8,700 and 43,100 physicians by 2030;¹ which will further impact the availability of physicians and health care providers to care for patients in underserved areas of the United States;² and

Whereas, The Florida State Medical Board has implemented policies and laws to allow hospitals to employ physicians who have limited medical licenses as “house physicians” to work under the direct supervision of a physician who has an active Florida medical license and provide care to patients³; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association work with state legislators and other regulatory organizations to develop the category of “House Physicians” to help address the anticipated physician need and shortfall of available practitioners in underserved areas of the United States. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Not yet determined

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References: