Whereas, Single Payer legislation in some states and in the US Congress has a real opportunity to become law; and

Whereas, Millions of patients with health insurance go without needed health care, or suffer financial hardship to get it, because of onerous deductibles, co-pays, restricted provider networks, out-of-network charges and unjustified denials of coverage; and

Whereas, Millions of people remain uninsured; and

Whereas, Sponsors and proponents of a state wide single-payer system believe that it will provide better coverage, at less cost, saving money for patients and government alike; and

Whereas, Regardless of where individual physicians stand on the issue of single payer health insurance, there are certain needed health system reforms for which most physicians would agree; and

Whereas, From an advocacy/strategy perspective, it would be helpful to identify health care principles that physicians and the public can seek and that could in turn provide the basis for alternatives to the current single payer proposals (and thus form the basis of a more cogent and unified physician message); therefore be it

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association advocate for health care reform proposals that would achieve the following:

- Reduce the number of uninsured; and
- Reduce barriers to insured patients receiving needed health care, including ensuring full transparency of patient-cost sharing requirements, preventing unjustified denials of coverage, ensuring comprehensive physician networks, including through fair reimbursement methodologies, and providing meaningful coverage for out-of-network care; and
- Reduce administrative burden on physicians; and
- Prevent imposition of new costs or unfunded mandates on physicians; and
- Provide needed tort reform; and
- Provide meaningful collective negotiation rights for physicians. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Not yet determined

Received: 04/25/19