Whereas, Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) choose medications based on the cost; and
Whereas, Patients have different responses to medications and need a variety of medications available to them; and
Whereas, There have been instances where health insurers and PBMs refuse to continue to continue covering needed pain management medications for severely ill patients when such patients are transitioned from a hospital to a community based care setting such as hospice; and
Whereas, Failure to sufficiently address patients’ pain control needs is one factor that leads to patients seeking medical assistance to end their life prematurely; therefore be it
RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association advocate through all appropriate means to ensure that medications used to stabilize palliative and hospice patients for pain and delirium in the hospital continue to be covered by pharmacy benefit plans after patients are transitioned out of the hospital. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Not yet determined

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