Whereas, Allied health professionals are continually trying to extend their scope of service; and
Whereas, There needs to be transparency for patients to know who is treating them and to be
able to evaluate the credentials of that provider of care; and
Whereas, There are doctorate degrees being granted to many allied health professionals and
the term doctor in the clinical setting may be misinterpreted by patients; therefore be it
RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association seek the passage of federal regulation
and/or legislation that mandates that the term physician be limited to those people trained in
accordance with Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education guidelines and have an
MD, DO or a recognized equivalent physician degree and that the term not be used by any
other organization or person involved in healthcare. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Not yet determined