Whereas, In 2008, Donald Berwick and the Institute of Healthcare Improvement provided a framework for the delivery of high value care in the USA, the Triple Aim, centered around three overarching goals: improving the individual experience of care; improving the health of populations; and reducing the per capita cost of healthcare; and

Whereas, The Triple Aim, adopted as a set of principles for health system reform within many organizations around the world, fails to acknowledge the critical role of physicians in healthcare transformation and ignores the threats of psychological and physical harm that are common in medical practice; and

Whereas, For decision makers in healthcare (hospital leaders, EMR and other medical vendors, lawmakers and insurance companies) to abide by the Triple Aim is to ignore the threats of psychological and physical harm that are common to [clinicians] and patients; and

Whereas, The focus on productivity and efficiency, fueled by the pressures of decreasing reimbursement, has reduced intimate caregiving relationships to a series of transactional demanding tasks; and

Whereas, That by ignoring the experience of providing care in our healthcare delivery framework, this has eliminated consideration of human limitations in the delivery of care and this deficit in the framework of healthcare delivery results in unreasonable expectations upon physicians that affects them personally and the patients they serve; and

Whereas, The Triple Aim framework perpetuates the high occupational stress environment currently experienced by physicians when this framework is followed by all decision makers in healthcare, be they hospital leaders, electronic medical record and other medical device vendors, as well as law makers; and

Whereas, Intimate caregiving relationships have been reduced to a series of transactional demanding tasks, with a focus on productivity and efficiency, fueled by the pressures of decreasing reimbursement; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That to the Triple Aim which was established by Dr. Berwick and the Institute of Healthcare Improvement, our American Medical Association adopt a fourth goal: namely the goal of improving physicians’ experience in providing care. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Minimal - less than $1,000

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