AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES (A-22)

Report of Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws

Nicole Riddle, MD, Chair

Your Reference Committee recommends the following consent calendar for acceptance:

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RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

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- 1. Board of Trustees Report 2 – New Specialty Organizations Representation in the House of Delegates
- 7 Board of Trustees Report 22 – Nonconsensual Audio/Video Recording at Medical 2. 8 Encounters (Resolution 007-June-21)
- 9 Board of Trustees Report 23 – Specialty Society Representation in the House of 3. 10 Delegates – Five-Year Review
- 11 4. Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Report 3 – Amendment to E-9.3.2,
- 12 Physician Responsibilities to Colleagues with Illness, Disability or Impairment
- Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Report 4 CEJA's Sunset Review of 2012 13 5. 14 **House Policies**
- 15 6. Resolution 002 – Opposition to Discriminatory Treatment of Haitian Asylum 16 Seekers
- 17 7. Resolution 003 – Gender Equity and Female Physician Work Patterns During the 18 Pandemic
- 19 8. Resolution 007 – Equal Access to Adoption for the LGBTQ Community
- 20 Resolution 018 – Hardship for International Medical Graduates from Russia and 9. 21 Belarus
- 22 10. Resolution 019 – Hardship for International Medical Graduates from Ukraine
- 23 Resolution 024 – Pharmaceutical Equity for Pediatric Populations 11.
- 24 12. Resolution 026 – Establishing Ethical Principles for Physicians Involved in 25 Private Equity Owned Practices 26
 - Resolution 028 Preserving Access to Reproductive Health Services 13.

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RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION WITH CHANGE IN TITLE

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Resolution 004 – Recognizing LGBTQ+ Individuals as Underrepresented in 14. Medicine

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RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION AS AMENDED

- 35 15. Board of Trustees Report 13 – Use of Psychiatric Advance Directives
- 36 Board of Trustees Report 14 – Amendment to Truth and Transparency in 16. 37 Pregnancy Counseling Centers, H-420.954
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- 3 21. Resolution 010 – Improving the Health and Safety of Sex Workers
- 4 22. Resolution 011 – Evaluating Scientific Journal Articles for Racial and Ethnic Bias
- 5 23. Resolution 012 - Expanding the Definition of latrogenic Infertility to Include 6 **Gender Affirming Interventions**
- 7 Resolution 013 – Recognition of National Anti-Lynching Legislation as Public 24. 8 Health Initiative
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- 11 26. Resolution 016 – Addressing and Banning Unjust and Invasive Medical Procedures Among Migrant Women at the Border 12
- Resolution 017 Humanitarian and Medical Aid Support to Ukraine 13 27.
- 14 28. Resolution 022 – Organ Transplant Equity for Persons with Disabilities
- 15 29. Resolution 023 – Promoting and Ensuring Safe, High Quality, and Affordable 16 Elder Care Through Examining and Advocating for Better Regulation of and 17 Alternatives to the Current, Growing For-Profit Long Term Care Options
- 18 30. Resolution 025 – Use of Social Media for Product Promotion and Compensation

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION IN LIEU OF

- Resolution 014 Healthcare Equity Through Informed Consent and a Collaborative Healthcare Model for the Gender Diverse Population
- 23 32. Resolution 027 - Protecting Access to Abortion and Reproductive Healthcare

RECOMMENDED FOR REFERRAL

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- 33. Board of Trustees Report 21 – Opposition to Requirements for Gender-Based Treatments for Athletes
- 29 Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Report 1 - Short-Term Medical Service 34. 30
- 31 35. Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Report 2 – Amendment to Opinion 10.8, 32 Collaborative Care
- 33 36. Resolution 005 – Supporting the Study of Reparations as a Means to Reduce 34 Racial Inequalities 35
 - Resolution 021 National Cancer Research Patient Identifier 37.
- 36 38. Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Report 5 – Pandemic Ethics and the Duty 37 of Care (D-130.960)

RECOMMENDED FOR NOT ADOPTION

- 39. Resolution 009 - Privacy Protection and Prevention of Further Trauma for Victims of Distribution of Intimate Videos and Images Without Consent
- 43 40. Resolution 020 - Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Guidelines for Treating 44 Unvaccinated Individuals

Amendments
If you wish to propose an amendment to an item of business, click here: Submit
New Amendment
New Amendment

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

(1) BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT 2 – NEW SPECIALTY ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTATION IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendations in Board of Trustees Report 2 be <u>adopted</u> and the remainder of the Report be <u>filed</u>.

Therefore, the Board of Trustees recommends that the American Contact Dermatitis Society, American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine, Americas Hernia Society, and the Outpatient Endovascular and Interventional Society be granted representation in the AMA House of Delegates and that the remainder of the report be filed. (Directive to Take Action)

The report was introduced by the author, and no other testimony was heard. Your reference committee recommends that Board of Trustees Report 2 be adopted and the remainder of the report be filed.

(2) BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT 22 –
NONCONSENSUAL AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDING AT
MEDICAL ENCOUNTERS (RESOLUTION 007-JUNE-21)

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendations in Board of Trustees Report 22 be <u>adopted</u> and the remainder of the Report be <u>filed</u>.

In consideration of the foregoing, your Board of Trustees recommends that Policy H-315.983, "Patient Privacy and Confidentiality," be reaffirmed in lieu of Resolution 7-June-21 and the remainder of this report be filed.

The report was introduced by the authors and no further testimony was heard. Your reference committee recommends that BOT report 22 be adopted.

(3) BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT 23 – SPECIALTY SOCIETY REPRESENTATION IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES – FIVE-YEAR REVIEW

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendations in Board of Trustees Report 23 be adopted and the remainder of the Report be filed.

The Board of Trustees recommends that the following be adopted, and the remainder of this report be filed:

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- 1. That the Academy of Physicians in Clinical Research, American Society for Reproductive Medicine, American Thoracic Society, College of American Pathologists, Congress of Neurological Surgeons, International College of Surgeons - US Section, Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions, and the Society for Investigative Dermatology, retain representation in the AMA House of Delegates. (Directive to Take Action)
- 2. Having failed to meet the requirements for continued representation in the AMA House of Delegates as set forth in AMA Bylaw B-8.5, the American Society of General Surgeons, American Society of Hematology, American Society of Transplant Surgeons, International Society of Hair Restoration Surgery and United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology be placed on probation and be given one-year to work with AMA membership staff to increase their AMA membership. (Directive to Take Action)
- 3. Having failed to meet the requirements for continued representation in the AMA House of Delegates as set forth in AMA Bylaw B-8.5 the Eye and Contact Lens Association not retain representation in the House of Delegates. (Directive to Take Action)

The report was introduced by the authors and no further testimony was heard. Your reference committee recommends that BOT report 23 be adopted.

COUNCIL ON ETHICAL AND JUDICIAL AFFAIRS (4) REPORT 3 – AMENDMENT TO E-9.3.2, "PHYSICIAN RESPONSIBILITIES TO COLLEAGUES WITH ILLNESS. **DISABILITY OR IMPAIRMENT"**

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendations in Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Report 3 be adopted and the remainder of the Report be filed.

The Council believes that a more general formulation that did not delineate specific actors would better emphasize the importance of fairness whenever and by whomever such assessment is sought and would help ensure that guidance remains evergreen. The Council therefore proposes to amend Opinion 9.3.2 by insertion as follows:

E-9.3.2 – Physician Responsibilities to Colleagues with Illness, Disability or Impairment

Providing safe, high-quality care is fundamental to physicians' fiduciary obligation to promote patient welfare. Yet a variety of physical and mental health conditions including physical disability, medical illness, and substance use—can undermine physicians' ability to fulfill that obligation. These conditions in turn can put patients at risk, compromise physicians' relationships with patients, as well as colleagues, and undermine public trust in the profession.

While some conditions may render it impossible for a physician to provide care safely, with appropriate accommodations or treatment many can responsibly continue to

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practice, or resume practice once those needs have been met. In carrying out their responsibilities to colleagues, patients, and the public, physicians should strive to employ a process that distinguishes conditions that are permanently incompatible with the safe practice of medicine from those that are not and respond accordingly.

As individuals, physicians should:

- (a) Maintain their own physical and mental health, strive for self-awareness, and promote recognition of and resources to address conditions that may cause impairment.
- (b) Seek assistance as needed when continuing to practice is unsafe for patients, in keeping with ethics guidance on physician health and competence.
- (c) Intervene with respect and compassion when a colleague is not able to practice safely. Such intervention should strive to ensure that the colleague is no longer endangering patients and that the individual receive appropriate evaluation and care to treat any impairing conditions.
- (d) Protect the interests of patients by promoting appropriate interventions when a colleague continues to provide unsafe care despite efforts to dissuade them from practice.
- (e) Seek assistance when intervening, in keeping with institutional policies, regulatory requirements, or applicable law.

Collectively, physicians should nurture a respectful, supportive professional culture by:

- (f) Encouraging the development of practice environments that promote collegial mutual support in the interest of patient safety.
- (g) Encouraging development of inclusive training standards that enable individuals with disabilities to enter the profession and have safe, successful careers.
- (h) Eliminating stigma within the profession regarding illness and disability.
- (i) Advocating for supportive services, including physician health programs, and accommodations to enable physicians and physicians-in-training who require assistance to provide safe, effective care.
- (i) Advocating for respectful and supportive, evidence-based peer review policies and practices to ensure fair, objective, and independent assessment of potential impairment whenever and by whomever assessment is deemed appropriate tothat will ensure patient safety and practice competency. (II)

Testimony was heard in strong support of CEJA Report 3. The authors of the original resolution noted that this report is much improved and is of significant benefit to physicians. Testimony noted that physicians have an ethical responsibility to be selfregulatory. Your reference committee recommends that CEJA Report 3 be adopted and the remainder of the report be filed.

1 (5) COUNCIL ON ETHICAL AND JUDICIAL AFFAIRS
2 REPORT 4 – CEJA'S SUNSET REVIEW OF 2012 HOUSE
3 POLICIES
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RECOMMENDATION:

 Recommendations in Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Report 4 be <u>adopted</u> and the remainder of the Report be <u>filed</u>.

The Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs recommends that the House of Delegates policies that are listed in the Appendix to this report be acted upon in the manner indicated and the remainder of this report be filed. (Directive to Take Action)

The report was introduced by the authors and no further testimony was heard. Your reference committee recommends that CEJA Report 4 be adopted and the remainder of the report be filed.

(6) RESOLUTION 002 – OPPOSITION TO DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT OF HAITIAN ASYLUM SEEKERS

RECOMMENDATION:

Resolution 002 be adopted

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association oppose discrimination against Haitian asylum seekers which denies them the same opportunity to attain asylum status as individuals from other nations. (New HOD Policy)

Testimony was heard in general support of Resolution 002, noting that the AMA must strive to mitigate threats to public health as they arise. Testimony noted that the treatment of Haitian asylum seekers has been an embarrassment, that physician leaders must make a statement that asylum seekers should be granted the same protections, and that it is a moral obligation to oppose harm being done to asylum seekers. Your reference committee recommends that Resolution 002 be adopted.

(7) RESOLUTION 003 – GENDER EQUITY AND FEMALE PHYSICIAN WORK PATTERNS DURING THE PANDEMIC

RECOMMENDATION:

Resolution 003 be adopted.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association advocate for research on physician-specific data analyzing changes in work patterns and employment outcomes among female physicians during the pandemic including, but not limited to, understanding potential gaps in equity, indications for terminations and/or furloughs,

gender differences in those who had unpaid additional work hours, and issues related to intersectionality (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA collaborate with relevant organizations to evaluate obstacles affecting female physicians and medical students during the pandemic. (Directive to Take Action)

Testimony was heard in strong support of Resolution 003. Supporting testimony noted that the pandemic required female physicians to take on additional roles both at work and at home without any additional support, and that burnout and anxiety increased during the pandemic among all health care workers, and particularly among minoritized health care workers and physicians in vulnerable populations. Speakers noted that equity in all areas is something we strive for, and when inequities arise, it is important that they are addressed. Limited testimony in opposition noted that single-parent fathers should not be excluded, and while your reference committee agrees, the spirit of this resolution was to address the challenges faced by female physicians during the pandemic. Your reference committee recommends that Resolution 003 be adopted.

(8) RESOLUTION 007 – EQUAL ACCESS TO ADOPTION FOR THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY

RECOMMENDATION:

Resolution 007 be adopted.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association advocate for equal access to adoption services for LGBTQ individuals who meet federal criteria for adoption regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA encourage allocation of government funding to licensed child welfare agencies that offer adoption services to all individuals or couples including those with LGBTQ identity. (New HOD Policy)

Testimony was heard in unanimous support of this resolution. Testimony noted that there are many children that do not get adopted in a timely fashion and move from foster care to foster care and expanding access to adoption services for LGBTQ individuals could help. It was noted that gender and sexual identity have no impact on an individual's ability to care for a child. Testimony also noted that this resolution is consistent with ACOG policy. Further testimony observed that children need both of their parents to be recognized as legal guardians or are more likely to end up in foster care. Your reference committee recommends that Resolution 007 be adopted.

RESOLUTION 018 - HARDSHIP FOR INTERNATIONAL (9)MEDICAL GRADUATES FROM RUSSIA AND BELARUS

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RECOMMENDATION:

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Resolution 018 be adopted.

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RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association study the impact of the current political crisis on international medical graduates with medical degrees from Russia and Belarus who are already in the U.S. either in training or practicing in regards to their ability to obtain primary source verification and report back during the 2022 Interim House of Delegates meeting. (Directive to Take Action)

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The resolution was introduced by the author and no further testimony was heard. Your reference committee recommends that Resolution 018 be adopted.

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RESOLUTION 019 – HARDSHIP FOR INTERNATIONAL (10)MEDICAL GRADUATES FROM UKRAINE

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RECOMMENDATION:

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Resolution 019 be adopted.

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RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association advocate with relevant stakeholders that advise state medical boards to grant hardship waiver for primary source verification of medical education for all licensing requirements for physicians who graduated from medical schools in Ukraine until the current humanitarian crisis in Ukraine is resolved. (Directive to Take Action)

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The resolution was introduced by the author and no further testimony was heard. Your reference committee recommends that Resolution 019 be adopted.

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RESOLUTION 024 - PHARMACEUTICAL EQUITY FOR (11)PEDIATRIC POPULATIONS

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RECOMMENDATION:

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Resolution 024 be adopted.

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RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association amend Policy H-100.987, "Insufficient Testing of Pharmaceutical Agents in Children," by addition to read as follows:

Insufficient Testing of Pharmaceutical Agents in Children H-100.987

- 1. The AMA supports the FDA's efforts to encourage the development and testing of drugs in the pediatric age groups in which they are used.
- 2. The AMA supports collaboration between stakeholders, including but not limited to the FDA, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and nonprofit organizations such as the Institute for Advanced Clinical Trials for Children, to improve the efficiency and safety of pediatric pharmaceutical trials in pursuit of pharmaceutical equity for pediatric populations.
- 50 (Modify Current HOD Policy)

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Testimony was heard in support of Resolution 024. Testimony noted the problem of insufficient clinical trials of pediatric pharmaceuticals and appreciated how the resolution responds to this important problem. Individual testimony suggested also including pregnant patients in the resolution, as they are also a patient population with insufficient representation within clinical trials. However, this testimony is beyond the scope of the current resolution which is focused on pediatrics and no other testimony voiced support for expanding its scope to other patient populations. Therefore, our reference committee recommends that Resolution 024 be adopted.

(12)RESOLUTION 026 – ESTABLISHING ETHICAL PRINCIPLES FOR PHYSICIANS INVOLVED IN PRIVATE **EQUITY OWNED PRACTICES**

RECOMMENDATION:

Resolution 026 be adopted.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association study and clarify the ethical challenges and considerations regarding physician professionalism raised by the advent and expansion of private equity ownership or management of physician practices and report back on the status of any ethical dimensions inherent in these arrangements. including consideration of the need for ethical guidelines as appropriate. Such a study should evaluate the impact of private equity ownership, including but not limited to the effect on the professional responsibilities and ethical priorities for physician practices (Directive to Take Action).

Testimony was heard in unanimous support of Resolution 026, noting that having principles outlined by the AMA will be incredibly important. Private equity can allow private practice physicians to compete and has led to increased physician reimbursement. Additionally, testimony noted the downsides of private equity and how it may improperly interfere with the patient-physician relationship and the quality of care of patient. An amendment suggested potential positive and negative impacts of private equity. However, your reference committee notes that the resolution calls for evaluating the "impact" of private equity, which encompasses both positive and negative aspects of the issue. Testimony was also offered that this study would be useful for students and trainees. Therefore, your reference committee recommends that Resolution 026 be adopted.

RESOLUTION 028 - PRESERVING ACCESS TO (13)REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

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RECOMMENDATION:

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Resolution 028 be adopted.

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RESOLVED, That our AMA:

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1. Recognizes that healthcare, including reproductive health services like contraception and abortion, is a human right;

2. Opposes limitations on access to evidence-based reproductive health services, including fertility treatments, contraception, and abortion;

- 3. Will work with interested state medical societies and medical specialty societies to vigorously advocate for broad, equitable access to reproductive health services, including fertility treatments, contraception, and abortion;
- 4. Supports shared decision-making between patients and their physicians regarding reproductive healthcare;
- 5. Opposes any effort to undermine the basic medical principle that clinical assessments, such as viability of the pregnancy and safety of the pregnant person, are determinations to be made only by healthcare professionals with their patients;
- 6. Opposes the imposition of criminal and civil penalties or other retaliatory efforts against patients, patient advocates, physicians, other healthcare workers, and health systems for receiving, assisting in, referring patients to, or providing reproductive health services;
- 7. Will advocate for legal protections for patients who cross state lines to receive reproductive health services, including contraception and abortion, or who receive medications for contraception and abortion from across state lines, and legal protections for those that provide, support, or refer patients to these services:
- 8. Will review the AMA policy compendium and recommend policies which should be amended or rescinded to reflect these core values, with report back at I-22: and be it further

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Testimony was heard in strong and passionate support of Resolution 028. Testimony noted that the probable overruling of Roe vs. Wade this month will criminalize and restrict access to abortion in many parts of the United States. Testimony noted that with Roe's reversal, many physicians who offer reproductive health care could face criminal and civil legal jeopardy and those physicians performing abortions in the case of ectopic pregnancies and miscarriages could be charged with crimes and those physicians offering abortions to patients who cross state lines could be criminally charged. Testimony strongly reflected that physicians should not be criminalized for the practice of medicine and that physicians are best authorities to define healthcare, not politicians or the government. Testimony further noted that the AMA has long standing policy supporting access to abortion care and this resolution is aligned with such policy and will help AMA leaders defined against legislative inference in the practice of medicine. Testimony noted that issue is larger than only reproductive health: it is about the criminalization of providing health care broadly, i.e., issues of reproductive health touch on many other health related matters. Limited testimony proposed that it would be better for the AMA to wait and see where national policy lands and then react. Limited testimony also reflected that the AMA has already been advocating on this issue, noting the AMA's amicus brief before the Supreme Court and that this policy is unnecessary. However, testimony noted that many laws have already been passed that are already limiting access to health care and are putting physicians at risk. The problem carries immediate risk with its impact clearly unfolding in the present. Limited testimony was heard in favor of referral of the first Resolve, noting that such a statement supports healthcare as a human right. Responding testimony noted that the first resolve clause is congruent with AMA policy as the AMA has already passed policy supporting health care as human right reflected in H-65.960. Another statement in favor of referral noted that the resolution mixes two separate issues: women's health and the criminalization of physicians. It would better to separate and addressed independently with further study. However, the balance of testimony reflected that the AMA cannot wait to take a strong stand on these issues. Your reference committee recommends that Resolution 028 be adopted.

Recommended for Adoption with Change in Title (14)RESOLUTION 004 - RECOGNIZING LGBTQ+ INDIVIDUALS AS UNDERREPRESENTED IN MEDICINE **RECOMMENDATION A:** The title of Resolution 004 be changed to: ENCOURAGING LGBTQ+ REPRESENTATION IN MEDICINE **RECOMMENDATION B:** Resolution 004 be adopted with change in title.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association advocate for the creation of targeted efforts to recruit sexual and gender minority students in efforts to increase medical student, resident, and provider diversity (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA encourage the inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity data in all surveys as part of standard demographic variables, including but not limited to governmental, AMA, and the Association of American Medical Colleges surveys, given respondent confidentiality and response security can be ensured (New HOD Policy); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA work with the Association of American Medical Colleges to disaggregate data of LGBTQ+ individuals in medicine to better understand the representation of the unique experiences within the LGBTQ+ communities and their overlap with other identities. (Directive to Take Action)

Testimony was heard in strong support of the resolution. Testimony noted that there is not adequate data on LGBTQ+ representation in medicine and that gathering further data on the issue is necessary. Passionate testimony noted how important it is for some LGBTQ+ patients to have patient-physician concordance in order to further strengthen the patient-physician and quality of care, thus underscoring the need to encourage and better understand the representation of LGBTQ+ physicians in the medical profession. Testimony noted that underrepresented is an official title in medicine and cannot be used without adequate data to support the designation and therefore an amendment was offered to change the title. Your reference committee recommends that Resolution 004 be adopted with a change in title.

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Recommended for Adoption as Amended

(15) BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT 13 – USE OF PSYCHIATRIC ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

RECOMMENDATION A:

Recommendation 2 in Board of Trustees Report 13 be <u>amended by addition</u> to read as follows:

2. Urges the mental health community to continue to study the role of advance care planning in therapeutic relationships and the use of psychiatric advance directives to promote the interests and well-being of patients, and support efforts to increase awareness and appropriate utilization of psychiatric advance directives. (New HOD Policy)

RECOMMENDATION B:

Board of Trustees Report 13 be <u>adopted as amended</u> and the remainder of the Report be <u>filed</u>.

Your Board of Trustees recommends that the following be adopted in lieu of Resolution 1-I-19 and the remainder of this report be filed: That our AMA:

1. Recognizes the potential for advance care planning to promote the autonomy of patients with mental illness; (New HOD Policy) and

 2. Urges the mental health community to continue to study the role of advance care planning in therapeutic relationships and the use of psychiatric advance directives to promote the interests and well-being of patients. (New HOD Policy)

Limited testimony was heard in support of Board of Trustees Report 13. An amendment was proffered to remove the study of the role of advance care planning in favor of supporting efforts to increase awareness and utilization of psychiatric advance directives. Your reference committee found that keeping the resolve urging study, along with awareness, best captures the reflected supportive testimony. Therefore, your Reference Committee recommends that Board of Trustees Report 13 be adopted as amended.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT 14 - AMENDMENT TO 1 (16)2 TRUTH AND TRANSPARENCY IN PREGNANCY 3 COUNSELING CENTERS, POLICY H-420.954 4 5 **RECOMMENDATION A:** 6 7 Recommendation 5 Board of Trustees Report 14 be 8 amended by addition to read as follows: 9 10 5. Our AMA urges that public funding only support 11 programs that provide complete, non-directive, medically accurate, health information to support 12 13 patients' informed, voluntary decisions. (Modify 14 **Current HOD Policy**) 15 **RECOMMENDATION B:** 16 17 18 Recommendations in Board of Trustees Report 14 be 19 adopted as amended and the remainder of the Report 20 be filed. 21 22 For the reasons discussed above, your Board of Trustees recommends that Policy H-23 420.954 be amended by insertion and deletion to read as follows in lieu of Resolution 8-N-21 and that the remainder of this report be filed: 24 25 26 H-420.954, "Truth and Transparency in Pregnancy Counseling Centers" 27 28 1. It is AMA's position that any entity that represents itself as offering health-related 29 services should uphold the standards of truthfulness, transparency, and confidentiality 30 that govern health care professionals. 31 32 2. Our AMA urges the development of effective oversight for entities offering pregnancy-33 related health services and counseling. 34 35 3. Our AMA supports advocates that any entity offering crisis pregnancy services 36 disclose information 37 38 a. truthfully describe the services they offer or for which they refer—including prenatal 39 care, family planning, termination, or adoption services—in communications on site, and 40 in its their advertising, and before any services are provided to an individual patient; and 41 concerning medical services, contraception, termination of pregnancy or referral for such 42 services, adoption options or referral for such services that it provides, 43 44 b. be transparent with respect to their funding and sponsorship relationships. 45 46 4. Our AMA advocates that any entity licensed to provide providing medical or health 47 services to pregnant women that markets medical or any clinical services abide by 48 licensing and have the

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a. ensure that care is provided by appropriately qualified, licensed personnel; to do so and

b. abide by federal health information privacy laws.

<u>5. Our AMA urges that public funding only support programs that provide complete, medically accurate, health information to support patients' informed, voluntary decisions.</u> (Modify Current HOD Policy)

Testimony was heard in general support of Board of Trustees Report 14, noting that the report urges Pregnancy Counseling Centers to provide complete and medically accurate information to patients. Testimony also noted that this report made necessary amendments to the original policy, and that it is important to support this report in light of recent events impacting abortion rights in this country. An amendment was offered to add "non-directive" before "complete" in the fifth clause, with which your reference committee agreed. Limited testimony supported referral for the sake of clarity, including defining "effective oversight" in clause 2, and at what funding/sponsorship levels would donors be required to be disclosed in clause 3b, however your reference committee did not believe referral to be reflective of testimony. Your reference committee recommends that the recommendations in Board of Trustees Report 14 be adopted as amended, and the remainder of the report be filed.

(17) COUNCIL ON CONSTIUTION AND BYLAWS REPORT 1

- CLARIFICATION TO THE BYLAWS: DELEGATE
REPRESENTATION

RECOMMENDATION A:

Council on Constitution and Bylaws Report 1 be amended by addition to read as follows:

2.4.1 Qualifications. Delegates <u>and alternate delegates</u> from the Resident and Fellow Section must be active members of the Resident and Fellow Section of the AMA. <u>In addition, resident and fellow physician</u> <u>delegates and alternate delegates must be members of their endorsing society or organization currently seated in the HOD, in a capacity appropriate to their <u>level of training.</u></u>

RECOMMENDATION B:

Recommendations in Council on Constitution and Bylaws Report 1 be <u>adopted as amended</u> and the remainder of the Report be <u>filed</u>.

The Council on Constitution and Bylaws recommends that the following amendments to the AMA Bylaws be adopted and that the remainder of this report be filed. Adoption requires the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the House of Delegates present and voting.

- 2.0.1 Composition and Representation. The House of Delegates is composed of
 delegates selected by recognized constituent associations and specialty societies, and
 other delegates as provided in this bylaw.
 - **2.0.1.1 Qualification of Members of the House of Delegates.** Members of the House of Delegates must be active members of the AMA <u>and of the entity they represent.</u>
 - **2.8 Alternate Delegates.** Each organization represented in the House of Delegates may select an alternate delegate for each of its delegates entitled to be seated in the House of Delegates.
- 9 2.8.1 Qualifications. Alternate delegates must be active members of the AMA and of the entity they represent.

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- **2.3 Medical Student Regional Delegates.** In addition to the delegate and alternate delegate representing the Medical Student Section, regional medical student regional delegates and regional alternate delegates shall be apportioned and elected as provided in this bylaw.
- **2.3.1 Qualifications.** Medical Sstudent Rregional delegates and alternate delegates must be active medical student members of the AMA. In addition, medical student regional delegates and alternate delegates must be members of their endorsing constituent association. The region in which the endorsing society is located determines the student's region, and a medical student may serve as a regional delegate, alternate delegate or any form of substitute (pursuant to Bylaws 2.8.5 or 2.10.4) only for that region.

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- 2.3.3 Medical Sstudent Rregional delegates and alternates shall be elected by the Medical Student Section in accordance with procedures adopted by the Section. Each elected delegate and alternate delegate must receive written endorsement from the their constituent association representing the jurisdiction within which the medical student's educational program is located, in accordance with procedures adopted by the Medical Student Section and approved by the Board of Trustees. Delegates and alternate delegates shall be elected at the Business Meeting of the Medical Student Section prior to the Interim Meeting of the House of Delegates. Delegates and alternate delegates shall be seated at the next Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates.
- **2.4 Delegates from the Resident and Fellow Section.** In addition to the delegate and alternate delegate representing the Resident and Fellow Section, resident and fellow physician delegates and alternate delegates shall be apportioned and elected in a manner as provided in this bylaw.
- **2.4.1 Qualifications.** Delegates <u>and alternate delegates</u> from the Resident and Fellow Section must be active members of the Resident and Fellow Section of the AMA. <u>In addition, resident and fellow physician delegates and alternate delegates must be members of their endorsing society or organization currently seated in the HOD.</u>
- **2.4.2 Apportionment.** The apportionment of delegates from the Resident and Fellow Section is one delegate for each 2,000 active resident and fellow physician members of the AMA, as recorded by the AMA on December 31 of each year.
- **2.4.3 Election.** Delegates and alternate delegates shall be elected by the Resident and Fellow Section in accordance with procedures adopted by the Section. Each delegate and alternate delegate must receive written endorsement from his or her a society or organization currently seated in the House of Delegates and a constituent association or national medical specialty society, in accordance with procedures adopted by the Resident and Fellow Section and approved by the Board of Trustees.

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2.10.8 Medical Student Seating. Each Mmedical Student Rregional delegate shall be seated with the student's endorsing constituent association representing the jurisdiction within which such delegate's educational program is located. Alternate or substitute delegates shall be assigned to the original regional delegate's seat location during the time they are seated for the original delegate.

2.10.9 Resident and Fellow Seating. Each delegate from the Resident and Fellow Section shall be seated with the physician's endorsing society or organization constituent association or specialty society. In the case where a delegate has been endorsed by multiple entities both a constituent association and specialty society, the delegate must choose, prior to the election, with which delegation the delegate wishes to be seated. Alternate or substitute delegates shall be assigned to the original delegate's seat location during the time they are seated for the original delegate.

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Testimony was heard in unanimous support of CCB Report 1. An amendment was offered to section 2.4.1 to clarify that the resident delegate must be a member of their supporting society, appropriate to their level of training. This was felt to better clarify that membership in some societies may be different from a "full member" for those who are currently in training. The Council testified in support of the amendment. Your reference committee recommends that CCB Report 1 be adopted as amended and the remainder of the report be filed.

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(18)RESOLUTION 001 - INCREASING PUBLIC UMBILICAL CORD BLOOD DONATIONS IN TRANSPLANT CENTERS

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RECOMMENDATION A:

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Resolution 001 be amended by addition of a third Resolve to read as follows:

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RESOLVED, That our AMA encourage access to public cord banking and the creation of public cord blood banks support altruistic blood to cord donation. (Directive to take action)

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RECOMMENDATION B:

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Resolution 001 be adopted as amended.

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RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association encourage all hospitals with obstetrics programs to make available to patients and reduce barriers to public (altruistic) umbilical cord blood donation (Directive to Take Action); and be it further RESOLVED, That our AMA encourage the availability of altruistic cord blood donations in all states. (Directive to Take Action)

Testimony was heard in support of Resolution 001. Increased umbilical cord blood donation will increase access to this life-saving procedure, which typically requires no matching, but for which there is limited access. Limited testimony supported referral of the first Resolved clause, suggesting that the emphasis is misplaced, since some hospitals

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do not have the capability to make umbilical cord blood donation on site, and that it would

be preferable to reframe that clause to focus on making available access to public umbilical cord banks, but your reference committee believes that the amendment offered addresses that issue. Your reference committee recommends that resolution 001 be adopted as amended.

(19) RESOLUTION 006 – COMBATING NATURAL HAIR AND CULTURAL HEADWEAR DISCRIMINATION IN MEDICINE AND MEDICAL PROFESSIONALISM

RECOMMENDATION A:

Amended by the addition of a fifth resolve to read as follows:

RESOLVED, that our AMA encourage healthcare institutions to provide adequate protective equipment in accordance with appropriate patient safety for healthcare workers with natural hair/hairstyles or cultural headwear.

RECOMMENDATION B:

Resolution 006 be adopted as amended.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association recognize that discrimination against natural hair/hairstyles and cultural headwear is a form of racial, ethnic and/or religious discrimination (New HOD Policy); and be it further

RESOLVED. That our AMA oppose discrimination against individuals based on their leads to the control of the

RESOLVED, That our AMA oppose discrimination against individuals based on their hair or cultural headwear in health care settings (New HOD Policy); and be it further RESOLVED, That our AMA acknowledge the acceptance of natural hair/hairstyles and cultural headwear as crucial to professionalism in the standards for the health care workplace (New HOD Policy); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA encourage medical schools, residency and fellowship programs, and medical employers to create policies to oppose discrimination based on hairstyle and cultural headwear in the interview process, medical education, and the workplace. (New HOD Policy)

Testimony was heard in unanimous support of Resolution 006, noting that this policy is about professionalism and what professionals should look like, and that a person's hair or headwear has no bearing on professionalism. Testimony noted that we should end the notion that hairstyles and headpieces, particularly those that are prominent in communities of color, are unprofessional. Speakers noted that this resolution aligns the AMA with other organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics. An amendment was offered by Great Lakes to put the onus on healthcare institutions to provide adequate protective equipment in accordance with appropriate patient safety. Further testimony noted that the belief that one should have to take on Euro-centric features in order to be viewed as professional needs to be eliminated. Your reference committee recommends that Resolution 006 be adopted as amended.

(20) RESOLUTION 008 – STUDENT-CENTERED APPROACHES FOR REFORMING SCHOOL DISCIPLINARY POLICIES

RECOMMENDATION A:

That the second resolve of Resolution 008 be <u>amended</u> by addition and deletion to read as follows:

RESOLVED, That our AMA support the inclusion of consultation with school-based mental health professionals in the student discipline process. (New HOD Policy)

RECOMMENDATION B:

 Resolution 008 be adopted as amended.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association support evidence-based frameworks in K-12 schools that focus on school-wide prevention and intervention strategies for student misbehavior (New HOD Policy); and be it further RESOLVED, That our AMA support the inclusion of school-based mental health professionals in the student discipline process. (New HOD Policy)

Testimony was heard in general support of Resolution 008. An amendment was offered to the second Resolve clause. Testimony highlighted taking a disciplinary role could compromise mental health treatment efforts. Testimony asks to consider racial and disability bias in adoption of this measure. Therefore, your reference committee recommends that Resolution 008 be adopted as amended

 (21) RESOLUTION 010 – IMPROVING THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF SEX WORKERS

RECOMMENDATION A:

The first resolve in Resolution 010 be <u>amended by</u> <u>addition and deletion to read as follows:</u>

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association recognize the adverse health outcomes of criminalizing consensual sex work individuals who offer sex in return for money, goods or other considerations (New HOD Policy)

RECOMMENDATION B:

The second resolve be <u>amended by addition and deletion</u> to read as follows:

RESOLVED, That our AMA: 1) support legislation that decriminalizes individuals who offer sex in return for money, or goods, or other considerations; 2) oppose legislation that decriminalizes the purchase of sex services, buying as well as ownership and operation of and brothels keeping and other entities that provide such services; and 3) support the expungement of criminal records of those previously convicted of sex work, including trafficking survivors (New HOD Policy); and be it further

RECOMMENDATION C:

Resolution 010 be adopted as amended.

RECOMMENDATION D:

The title of Resolution 010 be changed to:

IMPROVING THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF INDIVIDUALS WHO OFFER SEX IN RETURN FOR MONEY, GOODS OR OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association recognize the adverse health outcomes of criminalizing consensual sex work (New HOD Policy); and be it further RESOLVED, That our AMA: 1) support legislation that decriminalizes individuals who offer sex in return for money or goods; 2) oppose legislation that decriminalizes sex buying and brothel keeping; and 3) support the expungement of criminal records of

those previously convicted of sex work, including trafficking survivors (New HOD Policy); and be it further

 RESOLVED, That our AMA support research on the long-term health, including mental health, impacts of decriminalization of the sex trade. (New HOD Policy)

The resolution was introduced by the authors, who also expressed support for the amendments offered by the AAFP, which the authors believe clarify and improve the original language. Testimony was heard in general support of the resolution. Another amendment suggested changing the term "consensual sex work" to "people who sell sex," which is person first language. Subsequent testimony supported the proposed amendments. Other testimony expressed concern about part 2 of the second Resolve clause dealing with sex buying and brothel keeping, which the speaker noted to be a separate and complex issue, but your reference committee believes that component to be aligned with the spirit of the resolution. Your reference committee recommends amendments to make the language more precise and recommends that Resolution 010 be adopted as amended.

(22) RESOLUTION 011 – EVALUATING SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL ARTICLES FOR RACIAL AND ETHNIC BIAS

RECOMMENDATION A:

The first resolve in Resolution 011 be <u>amended by deletion</u> to read as follows:

That our American Medical Association support major journal publishers issuing guidelines for interpreting previous research which define race and ethnicity by outdated means (New HOD Policy); and be it further

RECOMMENDATION B:

Resolution 011 be adopted as amended.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association support major journal publishers issuing guidelines for interpreting previous research which define race and ethnicity by outdated means (New HOD Policy); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA support major journal publishers implementing a screening method for future research submission concerning the incorrect use of race and ethnicity. (New HOD Policy)

Testimony was heard in general support of Resolution 011, noting that structural racism has caused inequities not only in research, but in outcomes as well. Maintaining a standard in the way we communicate research is essential. An amendment was offered to add an additional Resolve clause, that AMA should encourage JAMA to create guidelines for interpretating previous research which defines race and ethnicity by outdated means. Your reference committee notes that the AMA and JAMA are completely separate for editorial purposes. Additionally, the resolution, as proffered, asks the AMA to encourage major journals to make such guidelines making this amendment redundant.

Therefore, your reference committee recommends that Resolution 011 be adopted as amended.

(23) RESOLUTION 012 – EXPANDING THE DEFINITION OF IATROGENIC INFERTILITY TO INCLUDE GENDER AFFIRMING INTERVENTIONS

RECOMMENDATION A:

The first resolve in Resolution 012 be <u>amended by addition</u> to read as follows:

 RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association amend policy H-185.990, "Infertility and Fertility Preservation Insurance Coverage." by addition to read as follows:

Infertility and Fertility Preservation Insurance Coverage H-185.990

It is the policy of the AMA that (1) Our AMA encourages third party payer health insurance carriers to make available insurance benefits for the diagnosis and treatment of recognized male and female infertility; (2) Our AMA supports payment for fertility preservation therapy services by all payers when iatrogenic infertility may be caused directly or indirectly by necessary medical treatments as determined by a licensed physician, and will lobby for appropriate federal legislation requiring payment for fertility preservation therapy services by all payers when iatrogenic infertility may be caused directly or indirectly by necessary medical treatments as determined by a licensed physician; and (3) Our AMA encourages the inclusion of impaired fertility as a consequence of genderaffirming hormone therapy and gender-affirming surgery within legislative definitions of iatrogenic infertility, and supports access to fertility preservation services for those affected. (Modify Current HOD) Policy); and be it further

RECOMMENDATION B:

That Policy H-185-950 be <u>reaffirmed in lieu of</u> the second resolve of Resolution 12.

RECOMMENDATION C:

Resolution 012 be adopted as amended.

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33 34 RESOLVED. That our American Medical Association amend policy H-185.990. "Infertility and Fertility Preservation Insurance Coverage." by addition to read as follows: Infertility and Fertility Preservation Insurance Coverage H-185.990 It is the policy of the AMA that (1) Our AMA encourages third party payer health insurance carriers to make available insurance benefits for the diagnosis and treatment of recognized male and female infertility; (2) Our AMA supports payment for fertility preservation therapy services by all payers when iatrogenic infertility may be caused directly or indirectly by necessary medical treatments as determined by a licensed physician, and will lobby for appropriate federal legislation requiring payment for fertility preservation therapy services by all payers when iatrogenic infertility may be caused directly or indirectly by necessary medical treatments as determined by a licensed physician; and (3) Our AMA encourages the inclusion of impaired fertility as a consequence of gender-affirming hormone therapy and gender-affirming surgery within legislative definitions of iatrogenic infertility. (Modify Current HOD Policy); and be it further RESOLVED, That our AMA amend policy H-185.950, "Removing Financial Barriers to Care for Transgender Patients," by addition to read as follows: Removing Financial Barriers to Care for Transgender Patients H-185.950 Our AMA supports public and private health insurance coverage for medically necessary treatment of gender dysphoria as recommended by the patient's physician, including gender-affirming hormone therapy and gender-affirming surgery. (Modify Current HOD Policy)

An amendment was offered to the first Resolve clause, adding "And support access to fertility preservation services to those affected." Testimony expressed hesitancy around the term "medically necessary," noting that the term has been weaponized against patients seeking gender-affirming therapy. Further testimony supported the amendment striking the words medically necessary. Testimony also supported striking the second Resolve clause and reaffirming policy H-185.950. Therefore, your reference committee recommends that Resolution 012 be adopted as amended.

RESOLUTION 013 – RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL (24)ANTI-LYNCHING LEGISLATION AS PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVE

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RECOMMENDATION A:

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The third Resolve in Resolution 013 be amended by <u>deletion</u> to read as follows:

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RESOLVED, That our current AMA policy H-65.965, Support of Human Rights and Freedom, be amended by addition to read as follows:

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Our AMA: (1) continues to support the dignity of the individual, human rights and the sanctity of human life. (2) reaffirms its long-standing policy that there is no basis for the denial to any human being of equal rights, privileges and responsibilities commensurate with his or her individual capabilities and ethical character because of an individual's sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or transgender status, race, religion, disability, ethnic origin, national origin or age; (3) opposes any discrimination based on an individual's sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, phenotypic appearance, religion, disability, ethnic origin, national origin or age and any other such reprehensible policies; (4) recognizes that hate crimes pose a significant threat to the public health and social welfare of the citizens of the United States, urges expedient passage for appropriate hate crimes prevention legislation in accordance with our AMA's policy through letters to members of Congress; and registers support for hate crimes prevention legislation, via letter, to the President of the United States (Modify Current HOD Policy); and be it further

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RECOMMENDATION B:

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Resolution 013 be adopted as amended.

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RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association support national legislation that recognizes lynching and mob violence towards an individual or group of individuals as hate crimes (New HOD Policy); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA work with relevant stakeholders to support medical students, trainees and physicians receiving education on the inter-generational health outcomes related to lynching and its impact on the health of vulnerable populations (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

47 RESOLVED, That our current AMA policy H-65.965, Support of Human Rights and 48 Freedom, be amended by addition to read as follows:

Our AMA: (1) continues to support the dignity of the individual, human rights and the sanctity of human life, (2) reaffirms its long-standing policy that there is no basis for the denial to any human being of equal rights, privileges and responsibilities commensurate with his or ger individual capabilities and ethical character because of an individual's sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or transgender status, race, religion, disability, ethnic origin, national origin or age; (3) opposes any discrimination based on an individual's sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, phenotypic appearance, religion, disability, ethnic origin, national origin or age and any other such reprehensible policies; (4) recognizes that hate crimes pose a significant threat to the public health and social welfare of the citizens of the United States, urges expedient passage for appropriate hate crimes prevention legislation in accordance with our AMA's policy through letters to members of Congress; and registers support for hate crimes prevention legislation, via letter, to the President of the United States (Modify Current HOD Policy); and be it further RESOLVED, That our AMA reaffirm policy H-65.952 "Racism as a Public Health Threat". (Reaffirm HOD Policy)

Limited testimony was heard in support of Resolution 013. Testimony against the first Resolve clause noted federal legislation has already been passed on this issue: therefore, asking for national legislation is unnecessary. However, your reference committee believes that policy supporting national legislation is appropriate, even in light of recently passed legislation and having a strong policy in place can help with future legislative advocacy. Additional testimony reflected that the word "phenotypic" may cause confusion as it could be construed as endorsing some genetic basis or bias. Elimination of the word avoids any confusion and broadens the scope and the author of the resolution supports this change. Therefore, your reference committee recommends Resolution 013 be adopted as amended.

RESOLUTION 015 – INCREASING MENTAL HEALTH 1 (25)2 SCREENINGS BY REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT 3 AGENCIES AND IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH 4 **OUTCOMES FOR REFUGEE WOMEN** 5 6 RECOMMENDATION A: 7 8 That the second resolve of Resolution 015 be amended by addition and 9 deletion to read as follows: 10 11 **RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association** 12 advocate for increased research funding to evaluate the validity, efficacy, and implementation challenges of 13 existing mental health screening tools for refugee and 14 15 migrant populations and, if necessary, create rapid brief, accessible, clinically-validated, culturally-16 17 sensitive, and patient centered mental health 18 screening tools for pertaining to refugee and migrant 19 populations (Directive to Take Action); and be it 20 further 21 22 **RECOMMENDATION B:** 23 24 That the third resolve of Resolution 015 be amended 25 by addition and deletion to read as follows: 26 27 RESOLVED, That our AMA advocate for increased 28 funding to the National Institutes of Health for more 29 research on evidence-based designs on delivery of 30 mental health services to refugees and migrant 31 populations and the sex and gender factors that could 32 increase the risk for mental disorders in refugee 33 women and girls who experience sexual violence 34 (Directive to Take Action); and be it further 35 36 RECOMMENDATION C: 37 38 That the fourth resolve of Resolution 015 be amended 39 by addition to read as follows: 40 41 RESOLVED, That our AMA advocate for increased 42 mental health training support and service delivery funding to increase the number of trained mental 43 44 health providers to carry out mental health screenings 45 and treatment (Directive to Take Action); 46 47 RECOMMENDATION D: 48 49 Resolution 015 be adopted as amended.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association advocate for increased research funding to create rapid, accessible, and patient centered mental health screening tools pertaining to refugee and migrant populations (Directive to Take Action); and be it further RESOLVED, That our AMA advocate for increased funding to the National Institutes of Health for more research on evidence-based designs on delivery of mental health services to refugees and migrant populations (Directive to Take Action); and be it further RESOLVED. That our AMA advocate for increased mental health funding to increase the number of trained mental health providers to carry out mental health screenings and treatment (Directive to Take Action): and be it further RESOLVED, That our AMA advocate for and encourage culturally responsive mental health counseling specifically. (Directive to Take Action)

 Testimony was heard in general support of the resolution. The authors opposed an amendment offered to remove the term refugees, noting that while all populations need mental health screenings, the goal of this resolution is to address the issues specifically for refugees, who often lack mental health screening tools. An amendment was offered with language that helps clarify and strengthen the resolution. Therefore, your reference committee recommends that Resolution 015 be adopted as amended.

(26) RESOLUTION 016 – ADDRESSING AND BANNING UNJUST AND INVASIVE MEDICAL PROCEDURES AMONG MIGRANT WOMEN AT THE BORDER

RECOMMENDATION A:

The first resolve of Resolution 016 be <u>amended by</u> deletion to read as follows:

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association condemn the performance of nonconsensual, unnecessary, invasive medical procedures (Directive to Take Action); and

RECOMMENDATION B:

Resolution 016 be adopted as amended.

RECOMMENDATION C:

The title of Resolution 016 be changed:

ADDRESSING AND BANNING NONCONSENSUAL MEDICAL PROCEDURES AMONG MIGRANT WOMEN AT THE BORDER

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association condemn the performance of nonconsensual, unnecessary, invasive medical procedures (Directive to Take Action); and

RESOLVED, That our AMA advocate against forced sterilizations of any kind, including against migrant women in detention facilities, and advocate for appropriate associated disciplinary action (including license revocation) (Directive to Take Action); and RESOLVED, That our AMA advocate for safer medical practices and protections for migrant women. (Directive to Take Action)

Testimony was heard in general support of Resolution 016. An amendment was proposed to eliminate the word "unnecessary," as the term is vague and could be misused. The authors agreed with the proposed amendment. Testimony also noted that bodily autonomy and informed consent should be minimum standards in all healthcare settings, and that all practitioners should abide by medically indicated, evidence-based care. Additionally, your reference committee recommends eliminating the word "invasive" from the title, as the word is ambiguous and limiting in scope. Your reference committee recommends that Resolution 016 be adopted as amended.

(27) RESOLUTION 017 – HUMANITARIAN AND MEDICAL AID SUPPORT TO UKRAINE

RECOMMENDATION A:

The second resolve in Resolution 017 be <u>amended by</u> addition and deletion to read as follows:

RESOLVED, That our AMA advocate for an early implementation of mental health measures, including suicide prevention efforts, and address war-related trauma and post-traumatic stress disorder when dealing with Ukrainian refugees with special attention to vulnerable populations including but not limited to young children, mothers, and-pregnant women, and the elderly (Directive to Take Action);

Recommendation B:

The third resolve in Resolution 017 be <u>amended by</u> <u>addition and deletion</u> to read as follows:

RESOLVED, That our AMA advocate for educational measures to enhance the understanding of war-related trauma in war survivors and promote <u>broad protective</u> factors (e.g., financial, employment, housing, and food stability) that can improve adjustment and outcomes for efforts to increase resilience in war-affected people, particularly when applied to targeting vulnerable categories of people. (Directive to Take Action)

RECOMMENDATION C:

 Resolution 017 be adopted as amended.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association advocate for continuous support of organizations providing humanitarian missions and medical care to Ukrainian refugees in Ukraine, at the Polish-Ukrainian border, in nearby countries, and/or in the US; (Directive to Take Action) and be it further RESOLVED, That our AMA advocate for an early implementation of mental health

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measures and address war-related trauma and post-traumatic stress disorder when dealing with Ukrainian refugees with special attention to vulnerable populations including but not limited to young children, mothers, and pregnant women (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA advocate for educational measures to enhance the understanding of war-related trauma in war survivors and promote efforts to increase resilience in war-affected people targeting vulnerable categories of people. (Directive to Take Action)

Testimony was heard in strong support of this resolution. Amendments were offered suggesting clarifying and precise language. Your reference committee find these amendments strengthen the resolution and recommends that Resolution 017 be adopted as amended.

(28) RESOLUTION 022 – ORGAN TRANSPLANT EQUITY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

RECOMMENDATION A:

The second resolve in Resolution 022 be <u>amended by</u> addition to read as follows:

RESOLVED, That our AMA support individuals with IDD who can fulfill transplant center protocols having equal access to organ transplant services and protection from discrimination in rendering these services (New HOD Policy); and be it further

RECOMMENDATION B:

Resolution 022 be adopted as amended.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association support equitable inclusion of people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) in eligibility for transplant surgery (New HOD Policy); and be it further

45 RESOLVED, That our AMA support individuals with IDD having equal access to organ 46 transplant services and protection from discrimination in rendering these services (New 47 HOD Policy); and be it further

48 RESOLVED, That our AMA support the goal of the Organ Procurement and

Transplantation Network (OPTN) in adding disability status to their Nondiscrimination

policy under the National Organ Transplant Act of 1984 (New HOD Policy); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA work with relevant stakeholders to distribute antidiscrimination education materials for healthcare providers related to equitable inclusion of people with IDD in eligibility for transplant surgery. (Directive to Take Action)

Limited testimony was heard in support of the resolution. An amendment was offered to the second Resolve clause adding the words with IDD "who can fulfill transplant center protocols," which was viewed as friendly. Additional amendments were offered, which recommended the addition of two new resolve clauses, however they did not receive significant discussion at the hearing and therefore your reference committee declines to add them. Your reference committee recommends that Resolution 022 be adopted as amendment.

(29) RESOLUTION 023 – PROMOTING AND ENSURING SAFE, HIGH QUALITY, AND AFFORDABLE ELDER CARE THROUGH EXAMINING AND ADVOCATING FOR BETTER REGULATION OF AND ALTERNATIVES TO THE CURRENT, GROWING FOR-PROFIT LONG TERM CARE OPTIONS

RECOMMENDATION A:

The second resolve in Resolution 023 be <u>amended by</u> <u>addition</u> to read as follows:

RESOLVED, That our AMA, in collaboration with other stakeholders, including major payers, advocate for further research into alternatives to current options for long term care to promote the highest quality and value long term care services and supports (LTSS) models as well as functions and structures which best support these models for care. (Directive to Take Action)

RECOMMENDATION B:

Resolution 023 be adopted as amended.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association advocate for business models in long term care for the elderly which incentivize and promote the ethical use of resources to maximize care quality, staff and resident safety, and resident quality of life, and which hold patients' interests as paramount over maximizing profit (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA, in collaboration with other stakeholders, advocate for further research into alternatives to current options for long term care to promote the highest quality and value long term care services and supports (LTSS) models as well as functions and structures which best support these models for care. (Directive to Take Action)

Testimony was heard in unanimous support of Resolution 023. An amendment was offered and agreed to by the authors. Your reference committee recommends that

Resolution 023 be adopted as amended.

(30) RESOLUTION 025 – USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA FOR

PRODUCT PROMOTION AND COMPENSATION

RECOMMENDATION A:

Resolution 025 be amended by deletion to read as follows:

 RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association study the ethical issues of medical students, residents, fellows, and physicians endorsing non-health related products through social and mainstream media for personal or financial gain. (Directive to Take Action)

RECOMMENDATION B:

Resolution 025 be adopted as amended.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association study the ethical issues of medical students, residents, fellows, and physicians endorsing non-health related products through social and mainstream media for personal or financial gain. (Directive to Take Action)

Resolution 025 was introduced by the author, and no further testimony was heard. Your reference committee recommends the removal of "non-health" to help broaden the scope of the proposed study and explore various facets of this timely and important issue. Your reference committee recommends that Resolution 025 be adopted as amended

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RESOLUTION 014 – HEALTHCARE EQUITY THROUGH INFORMED CONSENT AND A COLLABORATIVE HEALTHCARE MODEL FOR THE GENDER DIVERSE POPULATION

RECOMMENDATION:

That Alternate Resolution 014 be adopted in lieu of Resolution 14

Resolved, that our American Medical Association supports shared decision making between gender diverse individuals, their health care team, and, where applicable, their families and caregivers.

Resolved, that our American Medical Association supports treatment models for gender diverse people that promotes informed consent, personal autonomy, increased access for gender affirming treatments and eliminates unnecessary third party involvement outside of the physician-patient relationship in the decision making process.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association support shared decision making between gender diverse individuals, their families, their primary care physician, and a multidisciplinary team of physicians and other health care professionals including, but not limited to, those in clinical genetics, endocrinology, surgery, and behavioral health, to support informed consent and patient personal autonomy, increase access to beneficial gender affirming care treatment options and preventive care, avoid medically unnecessary surgeries, reduce long term patient dissatisfaction or regret following gender affirming treatments, and protect federal civil rights of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation. (New HOD Policy)

The authors introduced the resolution and expressed support for a proposed amendment. That amendment replaced the current Resolve with two alternate Resolve clauses and addressed concerns regarding the conflation between DSD and trans patients. Care for trans patients and DSD patients can be very different and often opposed. Further testimony noted that the subject is important and complex and recommended referral to make sure the language is handled properly. Your references committee believes that the language of the alternate resolution addresses those concerns and recommends adoptions of Alternate Resolution 14 in lieu of the original Resolution 014.

1 2 (32)RESOLUTION 027 – PROTECTING ACCESS TO 3 ABORTION AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE 4 5 **RECOMMENDATION A:** 6 7 The first resolve in Resolution 027 be amended by 8 addition to read as follows: 9 10 **Ending the Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy** 11 (REMS) Policy on Supporting Access to Mifepristone 12 (Mifeprex), H-100.948 13 14 Our AMA will support mifepristone availability for 15 reproductive health indications, including via 16 telemedicine, telehealth, and at retail pharmacies and 17 continue efforts urging the Food and Drug 18 Administration to lift the Risk Evaluation and 19 Mitigation Strategy on mifepristone. (Modify Current 20 **HOD Policy**) 21 22 **RECOMMENDATION B:** 23 24 Resolution 027 be adopted as amended. 25 26 RESOLVED. That our AMA amends policy H-100.948, "Ending the Risk Evaluation and 27 Mitigation Strategy (REMS) Policy on Mifepristone (Mifeprex)," by addition and deletion 28 as follows: 29 30 Ending the Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) Policy on Supporting 31 Access to Mifepristone (Mifeprex), H-100.948 32 33 Our AMA will support mifepristone availability for reproductive health indications, 34 including via telemedicine, telehealth, and at retail pharmacies efforts urging the Food 35 and Drug Administration to lift the Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy on 36 mifepristone. (Modify Current HOD Policy) 37 38 RESOLVED, That our AMA amends policy H-5.980, "Oppose the Criminalization of Self 39 Induced Abortion," by addition and deletion as follows: 40 41 Oppose the Criminalization of Self-Induced Abortion, H-5.980 42

Our AMA: (1) opposes the criminalization of self-induced managed abortion and the

criminalization of patients who access abortions as it increases patients' medical risks

and deters patients from seeking medically necessary services; and (2) will advocate

criminalization of patients who access abortions; and (3) will oppose efforts to enforce

against any legislative efforts to criminalize self-induced managed abortion and the

criminal and civil penalties or other retaliatory efforts against these patients and

requirements that physicians function as agents of law enforcement – gathering

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<u>evidence for prosecution rather than as a provider of treatment.</u> (Modify Current HOD Policy)

Testimony was heard in unanimous support of the goal of the resolution. An amendment was proffered to retain of the portion of the first resolve that struck efforts to urge the FDA to lift the Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) on mifepristone, because REMS still exists but are temporally suspended due to the pandemic. Further testimony was heard in support of this amendment. Testimony noted that reproductive rights are under attack and physicians should not be criminalized for providing reproductive services. It was noted that this resolution maintains AMA policy but updates it to reflect current FDA recommendations and supports AMA policy opposing punitive measures against pregnant people. Your reference committee recommends that Resolution 027 be adopted as amended.

Recommended for Referral

(33) BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT 21 – OPPOSITION TO REQUIREMENTS FOR GENDER-BASED TREATMENTS FOR ATHLETES

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendations in Board of Trustees Report 21 be referred.

In view of these considerations, your Board of Trustees recommends that the following recommendations be adopted in lieu of Resolution 19-A-19 and the remainder of this report be filed:

- 1. That our American Medical Association (AMA) oppose mandatory medical treatment or surgery for athletes with Differences of Sex Development (DSD) to be allowed to compete in alignment with their identity; (New HOD Policy)
- 2. That our AMA oppose use of specific hormonal guidelines to determine gender classification for athletic competitions. (New HOD Policy)

The authors of the report stated that as a result of testimony in the online forum, the Board would accept referral to address certain issues within the report. Further testimony was heard in support of the report as written, noting that athletes, particularly female athletes, may be subjected to unnecessary medical examinations and inappropriate medical interventions. Further testimony expressed the desire for definitions in the report, including DSD, women with differences of sexual development, and female athletes. An amendment was offered, and subsequent testimony was heard in support, that would add the words "examination, testing, or" before hormonal guidelines. The amendment from will be offered to the Board of Trustees for consideration. Therefore your reference committee recommend that Board of Trustees of Report 21 be referred.

(34) COUNCIL ON ETHICAL AND JUDICIAL AFFAIRS
REPORT 1 – SHORT-TERM MEDICAL SERVICE TRIPS

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendations in Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Report 1 be referred.

In light of these deliberations, the Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs recommends that the following be adopted and the remainder of this report be filed:

Short-term medical service trips, which send physicians and physicians in training from wealthier countries to provide care in resource-limited settings for a period of days or weeks, have been promoted as a strategy to provide needed care to individual patients and, increasingly, as a means to address global health inequities. To the extent that such service trips also provide training and educational opportunities, they may offer benefit both to the communities that host them and the medical professionals and trainees who volunteer their time and clinical skills.

By definition, short-term medical service trips take place in contexts of scarce resources and in the shadow of colonial histories. These realities define fundamental ethical responsibilities for volunteers, sponsors, and hosts to jointly prioritize activities to meet mutually agreed-on goals; navigate day-to-day collaboration across differences of culture, language, and history; and fairly allocate host and team resources in the local setting. Participants and sponsors must focus not only on enabling good health outcomes for individual patients, but on promoting justice and sustainability, minimizing burdens on host communities, and respecting persons and local cultures. Responsibly carrying out short-term medical service trips requires diligent preparation on the part of participants and sponsors in collaboration with host communities.

Physicians and trainees who are involved with short-term medical service trips should ensure that the trips with which they are associated:

(a) Focus prominently on promoting justice and sustainability by collaborating with the host community to define mission parameters, including identifying community needs, mission goals, and how the volunteer medical team will integrate with local health care professionals and the local health care system. In collaboration with the host community, short-term medical service trips should identify opportunities for and priority of efforts to support the community in building health care capacity. Trips that also serve secondary goals, such as providing educational opportunities for trainees, should prioritize benefits as defined by the host community over benefits to members of the volunteer medical team.

(b) Seek to proactively identify and minimize burdens the trip may place on the host community, including not only direct, material costs of hosting volunteers, but on possible disruptive effects the presence of volunteers could have for local practice and practitioners as well. Sponsors and participants should ensure that team members practice only within their skill sets and experience, and that resources are available to support the success of the trip, including arranging for appropriate supervision of

trainees, local mentors, translation services, and volunteers' personal health needs as appropriate.

(c) Seek to become broadly knowledgeable about the communities in which they will work and take advantage of resources to begin to cultivate the "cultural sensitivity" they will need to provide safe, respectful, patient-centered care in the context of the specific host community. Members of the volunteer medical team are expected to uphold the ethics standards of their profession and volunteers should insist that strategies are in place to address ethical dilemmas as they arise. In cases of irreducible conflict with local norms, volunteers may withdraw from care of an individual patient or from the mission after careful consideration of the effect that will have on the patient, the medical team, and the mission overall, in keeping with ethics guidance on the exercise of conscience.

Sponsors of short-term medical service trips should:

- (d) Ensure that resources needed to meet the defined goals of the trip will be in place, particularly resources that cannot be assured locally.
- (e) Proactively define appropriate roles and permissible range of practice for members of the volunteer team, including the training, experience, and oversight of team members required to provide acceptable safe, high-quality care in the host setting. Team members should practice only within the limits of their training and skills in keeping with the professional standards of the sponsor's country.
- (f) Put in place a mechanism to collect data on success in meeting collaboratively defined goals for the trip in keeping with recognized standards for the conduct of health services research and quality improvement activities in the sponsor's country.

Limited testimony noted that while the report is much improved, a number of issues remained including the need to address minimizing burdens to host, noting that care can do more harm than good, e.g., medication errors, side effects and complications. Testimony noted that the term cultural sensitivity is outdated and has been replaced by cultural humility. Testimony further noted that the report did not have adequate discussion regarding cost-effectiveness, state stakeholders, about positive and negative impacts, about people practicing beyond their expertise, and continuity of care. Your reference committee recommends that CEJA Report 1 be referred.

(35) COUNCIL ON ETHICAL AND JUDICIAL AFFAIRS REPORT 2 – AMENDMENT TO OPINION 10.8, COLLABORATIVE CARE

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendations in Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Report 2 be <u>referred</u>.

In light of the foregoing, the Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs recommends that Opinion 10.8, Collaborative Care be amended as follows and the remainder of this report be filed:

In health care, teams that collaborate effectively can enhance the quality of care for individual patients. By being prudent stewards and delivering care efficiently, teams also have the potential to expand access to care for populations of patients. Such teams are defined by their dedication to providing patient-centered care, protecting and promoting the integrity of the patient-professional physician relationship, sharing mutual respect and trust, communicating effectively, sharing accountability and responsibility, and upholding common ethical values as team members.

Health care teams often include members of multiple health professions, including physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, pharmacists, physical therapists, and care managers among others. To foster the trust essential to patient-professional relationships, all members of the team should be candid about their professional credentials, their experience, and the role they will play in the patient's care.

An effective team requires the vision and direction of an effective leader. In medicine, this means having a clinical leader who will ensure that the team as a whole functions effectively and facilitates decision-making. Physicians are uniquely situated to serve as clinical leaders. By virtue of their thorough and diverse training, experience, and knowledge, physicians have a distinctive appreciation of the breadth of health issues and treatments that enables them to synthesize the diverse professional perspectives and recommendations of the team into an appropriate, coherent plan of care for the patient.

As <u>clinical</u> leaders within health care teams, physicians individually should:

(a) Model ethical leadership by:

- (i) Understanding the range of their own and other team members' skills and expertise and roles in the patient's care
- (ii) Clearly articulating individual responsibilities and accountability
- (iii) Encouraging insights from other members and being open to adopting them and
- (iv) Mastering broad teamwork skills

(b) Promote core team values of honesty, discipline, creativity, humility and curiosity and commitment to continuous improvement.

(c) Help clarify expectations to support systematic, transparent decision making.

- (d) Encourage open discussion of ethical and clinical concerns and foster a team culture in which each member's opinion is heard and considered and team members share accountability for decisions and outcomes.
- (e) Communicate appropriately with the patient and family, including being forthright when describing their profession and role, and respecting the unique relationship of patient and family as members of the team.

As leaders within health care institutions, physicians individually and collectively should:

- (f) Advocate for the resources and support health care teams need to collaborate effectively in providing high-quality care for the patients they serve, including education about the principles of effective teamwork and training to build teamwork skills.
- (g) Encourage their institutions to identify and constructively address barriers to effective collaboration.
- (h) Promote the development and use of institutional policies and procedures, such as an institutional ethics committee or similar resource, to address constructively conflicts within teams that adversely affect patient care.
- (i) Promote a culture of respect, collegiality and transparency among all health care personnel.

Testimony supported much of the report, but concerns were expressed about the change from patient-physician relationship to patient-professional relationship, which speakers noted is a unique relationship that needs to be protected. Limited testimony supported the report as written, noting that the report addresses not only physicians, but other professionals on the team and the relationships they should have with patients. Your reference committee recommends that CEJA Report 2 be referred.

(36) RESOLUTION 005 – SUPPORTING THE STUDY OF REPARATIONS AS A MEANS TO REDUCE RACIAL INEQUALITIES

RECOMMENDATION:

Resolution 005 be referred.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association study potential mechanisms of national economic reparations that could improve inequities associated with institutionalized, systematic racism and report back to the House of Delegates (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA study the potential adoption of a policy of reparations by the AMA to support the African American community currently interfacing with, practicing within, and entering the medical field and report back to the House of Delegates (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA support federal legislation that facilitates the study of reparations. (New HOD Policy)

Testimony was heard in general support of Resolution 005. Supporting testimony noted that the Center for Health Equity has shown where the AMA has stood over the years, and where we need to make amends for past wrongs. Further testimony also noted that this resolution is about reparative justice. Testimony noted that the issue of national reparations is outside the scope of our AMA. However, recognizing and taking steps to make reparations for prior racist actions taken by the AMA should be addressed. Testimony noted that national reparations could have beneficial effects on the nation's health. Limited testimony was heard in support of referral, noting that actions being requested should be accomplished by federal legislation. Additionally, your reference committee notes that the call for supporting federal legislation is quite broad an in need of better clarity. Therefore, your reference committee recommend that this resolution be referred.

(37) RESOLUTION 021 – NATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH PATIENT IDENTIFIER

RECOMMENDATION:

Resolution 021 be referred.

RESOLVED, That in order to increase the power of medical research, our American Medical Association propose a novel approach to linking medical information while still maintaining patient confidentiality through the creation of a National Cancer Research

Identifier (NCRI) (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA encourage the formation of an organization or organizations to oversee the NCRI process, specific functions, and engagement of interested parties to improve care for patients with cancer. (Directive to Take Action)

Testimony was strongly in support of referral. The resolution's author testified in support of referral, noted that the issue may be best evaluated by a council. Testimony noted the complexity of the issue; i.e., a national patient identifier may exclude some people from clinical trials, may dissuade some people with privacy concerns from joining trials, may put undue burdens (e.g., further EHR responsibilities) on some physicains, and it may implicate privacy, trust, and surveillance concerns. Testimony also noted concern about what organizations would be involved in overseeing the NCRI process. Testimony further questioned why the resolution should be limited to cancer rather than be broader in scope. Considering testimony reflecting the complexity of the issue and the need for greater evaluation, your reference committee recommends that Resolution 021 be referred.

(38) COUNCIL ON ETHICAL AND JUDICIAL AFFAIRS REPORT 5 – PANDEMIC ETHICS AND THE DUTY OF CARE (D-130.960)

RECOMMENDATION:

Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Report 5 be referred.

Testimony in favor of referral to the report noted that the report recognizes a gap in the Code of Medical Ethics, but does not address that gap. Testimony asks CEJA to consider modifying the Code of Medical Ethics to address that gap. Therefore, your reference committee recommends that Council on Ethical Judicial Affairs Report 5 be referred.

Recommended for Not Adoption

(39) RESOLUTION 009 – PRIVACY PROTECTION AND PREVENTION OF FURTHER TRAUMA FOR VICTIMS OF DISTRIBUTION OF INTIMATE VIDEOS AND IMAGES WITHOUT CONSENT

RECOMMENDATION:

Resolution 009 be not be adopted.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association amend policy H-515.967, "Protection of the Privacy of Sexual Assault Victims," by addition to read as follows: Protection of the Privacy of Sexual Assault Victims H-515.967

The AMA opposes the publication or broadcast of sexual assault victims' names, addresses, images or likenesses without the explicit permission of the victim. The AMA additionally opposes the publication (including posting) or broad cast of videos, images, or recordings of any illicit activity of the assault. The AMA opposes the use of such video, images, or recordings for financial gain and/or any form of benefit by any entity. (Modify Current HOD Policy)

RESOLVED, That our AMA research issues related to the distribution of intimate videos and images without consent to find ways to protect these victims to prevent further harm to their mental health and overall well-being. (Directive to Take Action)

No testimony was heard during live testimony or on the online forum for this resolution. Therefore, your reference committee recommends that Resolution 009 not be adopted.

(40) RESOLUTION 020 – COUNCIL ON ETHICAL AND JUDICIAL AFFAIRS GUIDELINES FOR TREATING UNVACCINATED INDIVIDUALS

RECOMMENDATION:

Resolution 020 not be adopted.

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association and the Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs issue new ethical guidelines for medical professionals for care of individuals who have not been vaccinated for COVID-19. (Directive to Take Action)

Testimony was heard in opposition to this resolution, noting that CEJA has already provided tremendous guidance throughout the pandemic, and as COVID continues to evolve, there is no way to know whether current vaccinations will be effective against future COVID variants. Testimony also noted that this resolution asks for very specific guidance from CEJA, which is unnecessary. Your reference committee recommends that Resolution 020 not be adopted.

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Mister Speaker, this concludes the report of Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws. I would like to thank Dr. Sara Coffey, Dr. Peter Rheinstein, Dr. Ted Jones, Dr. Po-Yin Samual Huang, Dr. Alan Hartford, Dr. Richard Labasky, and all those who testified before the committee.

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