Whereas, the American Medical Association has put more emphasis on creating an equal playing field for all candidates for elected positions by changing a slew of election policies over the past couple of years to help elect candidates based upon merit above anything else; and

Whereas, the standardization of the election process has not included the endorsement process overall; and

Whereas, those groups with more available resources have a slight advantage in handling the burden of work to gather the information, which changes every election cycle, needed to seek an endorsement from the plethora of entities that give endorsements in the House of Delegates (HOD); and

Whereas, the HOD appears to believe that endorsements are worth the time and effort to seek and could potentially gain voters; and

Whereas, creating a process that provides information about every group that endorses candidates could help lessen the burden on smaller candidate campaign teams and create a more fair election environment; and

Whereas, the amount of time wasted seeking an endorsement from a group that actually doesn’t endorse a certain race could have been spent better elsewhere; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association require all groups that endorse candidates turn in information about their endorsement process, the deadline, and a staff contact for applications in a timely and streamlined manner (New HOD Policy); and be it further

RESOLVED, that our AMA then post this information on the election website in a timely manner, with the information being easily digestible and accessible (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, that our AMA not allow any group that fails to provide this information in a timely manner to offer an endorsement during that election cycle (New HOD Policy); and be it further

RESOLVED, that our AMA create a specific period (similar to virtual elections) during which endorsements may be sought. (New HOD Policy)

Fiscal Note: Modest - between $1,000 - $5,000

Received: 5/10/2024