Whereas, International Medical Graduates (IMGs) play a vital role in Missouri’s health care system; and

Whereas, IMGs provide medical care to a disproportionately higher number of patients in underserved communities; and

Whereas, IMGs provide medical care to a disproportionately higher number of patients using Medicaid (including those dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid) or SCHIP as their primary payment source; and

Whereas, Patients of IMGs are more likely to live in lower median income and incomes below federal poverty level neighborhoods; and

Whereas, The number of IMGs serving in medically underserved areas has declined during the last decade; and

Whereas, The process to recruit IMGs on visas is too onerous, especially for small independent physician practices; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association support federal legislation that reduces the paperwork burden on hiring of International Medical Graduates in rural communities. (New HOD Policy)

Fiscal Note: Minimal - less than $1,000

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