

RESOLUTION 12.2021-20 (A-22)
SUPPORT FOR A PUBLIC SINGLE PAYER FINANCED HEALTH REFORM

ISMS Board Action Taken on 02/05/2022

Did not adopt Resolution 12.2021-20 (A-22).

Council on Economics Recommendation to ISMS Board on 02/05/2022

The resolution asks that ISMS express its support for a government, single payer financing program, and submit a resolution to the AMA supporting such reform.

The author indicated he was again presenting this issue for consideration by ISMS membership because conversations and debate about the most effective mechanism for providing comprehensive and affordable health care in the U.S. are ongoing, and ISMS should continue to discuss the merits of adopting a single payer system.

Consistent with the resolution survey data and past ISMS debates on this issue, members of the Council were divided on whether ISMS should support or oppose a single payer system. However, the Council noted that Resolution 08.2021-07 (A-22), Health Care Reform by Means of State Legislative and Executive Activity and Action also addresses the need for significant health system reform. While the author of Resolution 08.2021-07 (A-22) is seeking reform that specifically aligns with a more market-based health care system, the Council is recommending that the Board adopt substitute language that supports an updated review of ISMS' *Health Care System Reform Principles* with a specific focus on the critical issues of access to care, quality, equity and cost.

The Council believes that the substitute language for Resolution 08.2021-07 (A-22) provides an opportunity for a balanced review of ISMS policy that would allow for consideration of concepts in support of both market-based and single payer reforms, and would facilitate the development of updated ISMS policy that reflects the current professional and policy environment. Accordingly, the Council recommends that Resolution 12.2021-20 (A-22) not be adopted, and that the substitute language of Resolution 08.2021-07 (A-22) be used as an opportunity to broadly review and modify, if necessary, ISMS' health system reform policies.

The Council on Economics recommends that the ISMS Board of Trustees not adopt Resolution 12.2021-20 (A-22).