

ILLINOIS STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY

**Resolution 12.2021-11
(A-22)**

Introduced by: Amar Dave, MD, ISMS Member

Subject: Minimal Age of Juvenile Justice Jurisdiction in the State of Illinois

Referred to: Medical Legal Council

1 Whereas, ISMS has no policy regarding minimal age of juvenile justice
2 jurisdiction; and

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4 Whereas, without a minimal age law, children of any age can be arrested; and

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6 Whereas, without minimal age law, children of any age can be charged with a
7 juvenile violation; and

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9 Whereas, without minimal age law, children of any age can be potentially
10 incarcerated; and

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12 Whereas, without minimal age law, racial injustice and health inequalities take
13 place; and

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15 Whereas, without minimal age law, families and individuals suffer economic
16 burden, social disgrace and stigmatization impacting future life and employment; and

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18 Whereas evidence supports decriminalizing young children and providing them
19 appropriate support avoiding handcuffs and cages is humane and productive approach
20 with positive mental and physical health outcome of the very young of the society and
21 ISMS should take a position in this matter; therefore, be it

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23 **RESOLVED**, that ISMS create a policy to establish minimal age of 12 years for
24 juvenile justice jurisdiction in the State of Illinois; and be it further

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26 **RESOLVED**, that ISMS introduce legislation to establish minimal age of 12 for
27 juvenile justice jurisdiction in the State of Illinois; and be it further

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29 **RESOLVED**, that the ISMS delegation to AMA introduce such legislation at the
30 national level.

Fiscal Note:

n/a

Existing ISMS policy and action related to this issue:

None