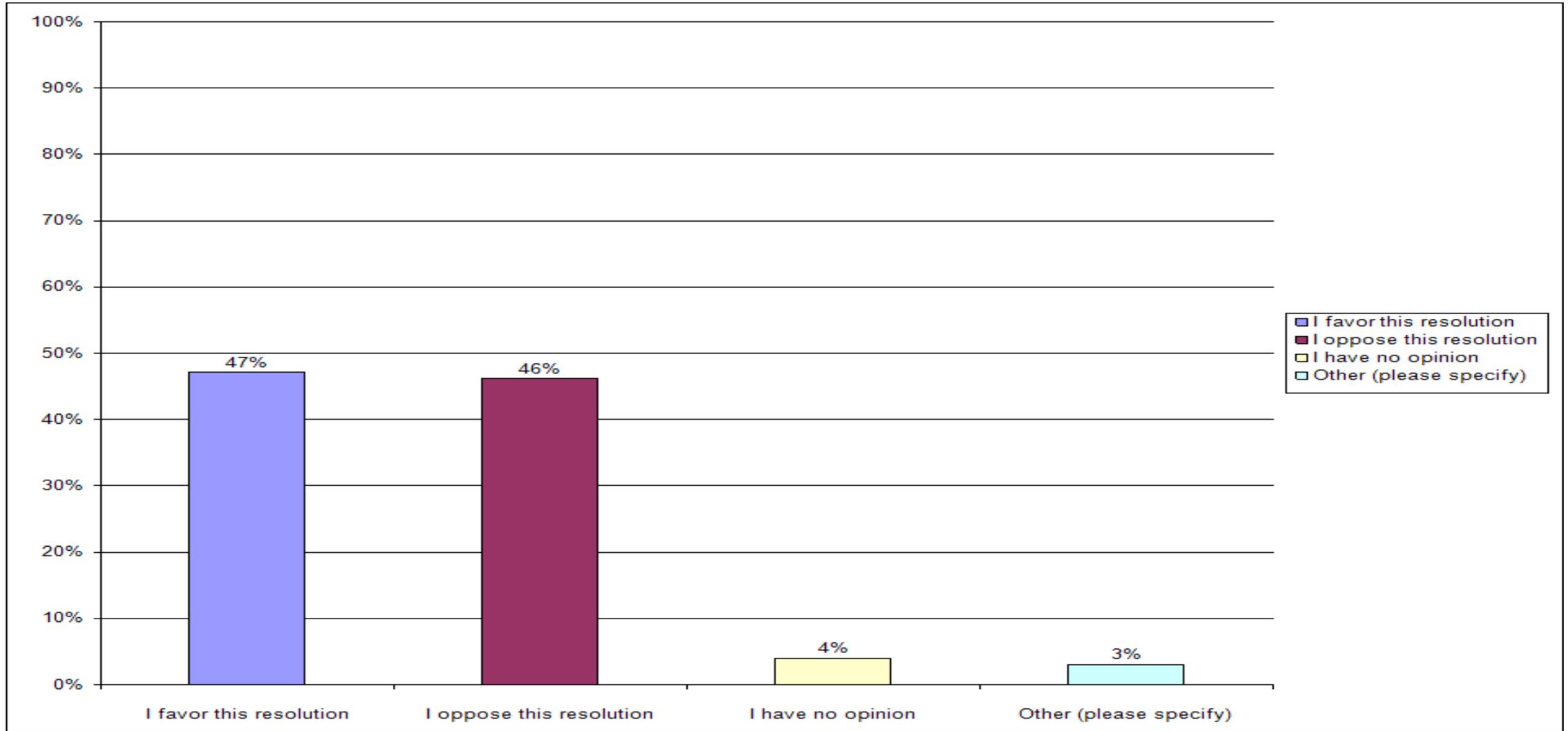
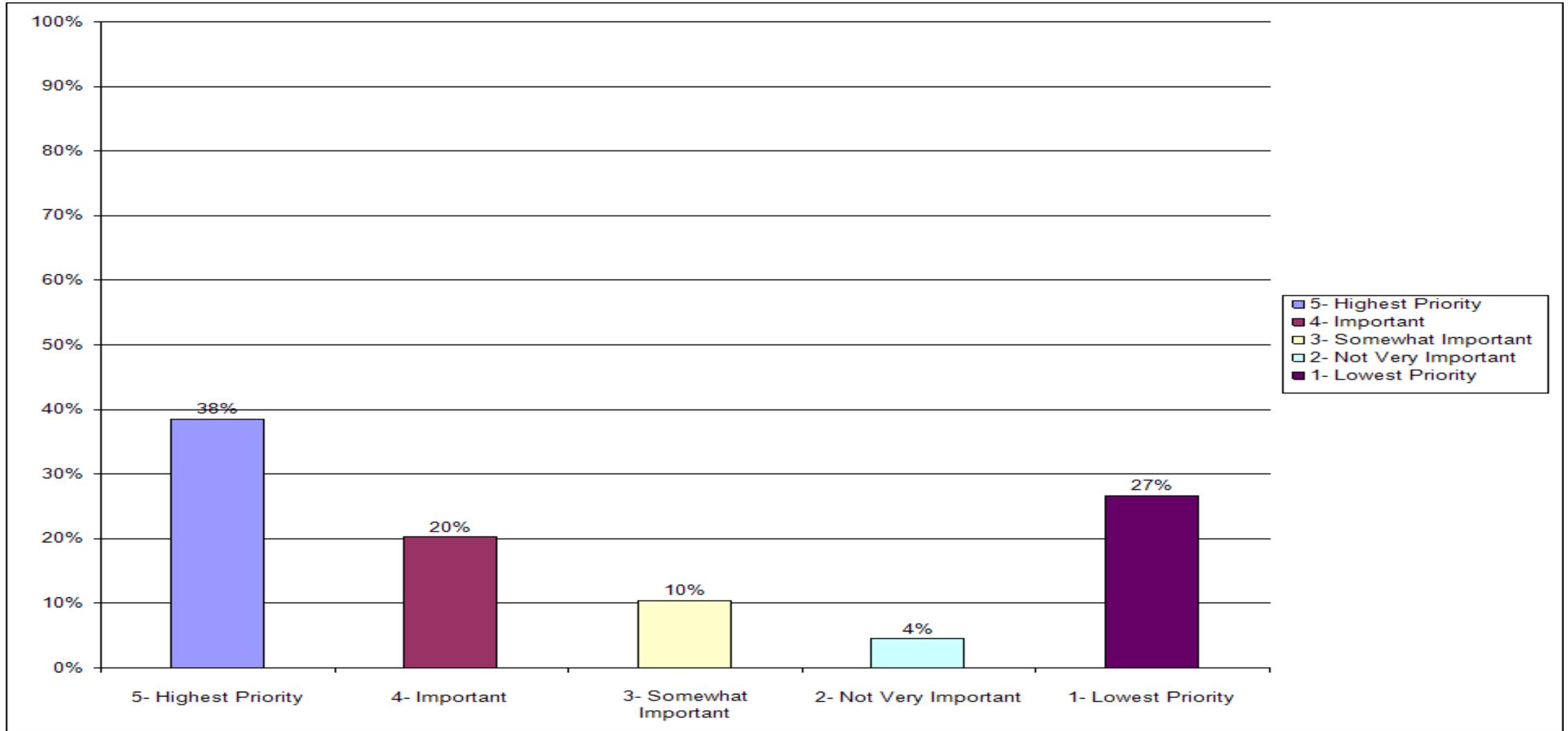


Support for a Public Single Payer Financed Health Reform



204 responses

Please indicate your view of this resolution as an ISMS priority.



203 responses

Comments

SR No.	Response No.	Response Text
1	5	I don't think we should express support for single payer healthcare. I think resolutions calling us to support universal access to care are strong, as everyone should have access to good quality healthcare. However, single payer is not the way to proceed.
2	11	Well written and comprehensive way to increase access and coverage.
3	16	Every single payer health care system in the world is a failure, let's not add another one at huge taxpayer expense.
4	19	Universal healthcare would lead to worsening healthcare for all. The current system is flawed, but to think the US government could take on the healthcare of all citizens is deeply flawed. Look no further than current government run programs. Look at the inefficiency of simple operations such as the DMV. If there is no competition or alternative, there is no incentive to provide a better system. A physician group asking for the government to assume complete control of our professional is not advocacy. The more politics get involved the more waste and division will occur. Our 2 party system will sue and counter sue each other and take resources away from actual healthcare. I would not be able to support a professional organization that would lobby for complete government control of our profession.
5	22	Horrific idea.
6	24	Will support of another elective option is a fee based private plan like in Canada and England
7	31	I adamantly oppose this resolution, especially after observing the behavior of our health care system under duress from mandates and the heavy hand of our government exposed by the COVID pandemic response. Too subject to totalitarian control.
8	32	Strongly support universal access; single payer unlikely in our environment unless as medicare expansion. Resolution should probably address the how, not only the what.
9	33	I believe it is imperative for the ISMS to support a resolution in favor of single payer programs as per the resolution this is the approach that would best ameliorate existing and worsening racial and economic disparities in health. In addition, such a program is financially favorable in reducing the overall money needed to be spent in healthcare and shifting the overall portion to healthcare itself and away from the administrative costs that comes with multiple competing private insurers.
10	35	It is inevitable that we eventually disabuse ourselves of the dysfunctional, disjointed healthcare system. How sad that we have the resources to be so much better but stubbornly adhere to the status quo. With so many excellent examples of other developed countries providing universal

		healthcare, it is pathetic that we remain paralyzed in fear of change. An open discussion is long overdue.
11	36	I strongly favor this though I know it is not the consensus of the Society. If the society does not support single payor, then I feel it should be of utmost priority to call for resolutions that offer some kind of cost reform, because our healthcare system is failing very badly. People are suffering. They are getting sicker and they are dying because of the cost. They are losing their savings and their homes. Private health insurance companies are getting richer and richer. Developing countries are offering better health options to their citizens and we are the richest country in the world.
12	38	Government is not efficient nor responsive to peoples' needs on a timely basis. This is a "Medicare/Medicaid for all" plan.
13	41	OMG NO! If you see how the government treats us as a financial partner now, you can only imagine the nightmare of having them as the only payer. We face record inflation and increasing costs, and yet the Government is giving us a pay cut. So, the net effect is probably 13% decrease if you count inflation. Or, the BS Metrics that they call "merit based" that have nothing to do with our cost or quality. And, how about the most recent metric which calls for the establishment of anti-racism policies that are designed to reinforce the concept that race is a political and social construct, and not a physiologic one. The end of the ISMS will be the acceptance of this sort of policy . 1) Because it'll be horrible for its members and 2) There will be significantly less need for a society like ISMS if the only payer is the government. And, people like me who are big supporters of ISMS will leave the society.
14	46	Socialists have had numerous opportunities to demonstrate success since 1848. Socialized medicine means long lines, delays in treatment, and loss of choices for patients and physicians. Passage of this resolution would be catastrophic for ISMS, and membership would fall dramatically. We must not turn over almost 20% of GNP to he federal government. There are far superior ways to improve the best medical system in the world, but no better way to ruin it. Don't believe the socialist propaganda brought to you by the people who would ruin your profession
15	47	I strongly believe in single payor system Being in private practice for more than 35 years , I am disillusioned by Insurance payors, they are there to make money, not for patient care. We do not need middle man for healthcare
16	48	Having a single payer would put most of us out of business. I do not trust reimbursement procedures and negotiation.
17	49	agree completely
18	51	Health Care Reform should include the positive attributes of both private and public financed and managed systems, and eliminate the negative attributes of each system. It is totally

		unrealistic to expect universal coverage which is cheap and affordable for everyone and then have a legal system that demands that no expense be spared for medical care for each and every pt even if odds of benefit are minuscule in a particular case. On top of that expecting pts to have complete freedom to choose the best medical service providers, but having physicians and medical facilities being paid a fixed and set amount for care means these resolutions are in la la land of utopia and not in the real world. The result will be more and more price controls and decline in quality and access.
19	52	Forget it!!
20	53	As dust settles from pandemic, there are many bureaucratic tangles that can be eliminated. How Medicare functions now is hardly a optimal model.
21	55	I do not agree with this resolution. This is a divisive political topic that ISMS should not get involved with.
22	57	As an Alternate Delegate to the ISMS-MSS and current member of the AMA-MSS Committee on Legislation and Advocacy, I strongly support this resolution.
23	59	This has met with limited success even in much smaller countries than the U.S. The wait for routine procedures in Canada is horrendous. The government has never been good at managing money--see amount of national debt and Biden's BBB program for example. Good way to drive down physician's salaries though!
24	60	the government poisons whatever it touches so they will not run health care effectively
25	63	I am fully aware of how single payer systems work in the UK and in Canada. I am also aware of patients waiting for months and years for elective treatments. Therefore I am opposed to government run single payer healthcare system, period.
26	67	Agree this would be a beneficial change /option.
27	69	The whereas portion makes many statements about what would be in a single payer system and how it would affect medical practice. These are desirable objectives, but are not actually inherent to a single payer system. They are, by and large, absent from the UK single payer system. Competition is more likely to spur innovation than is a monopoly, especially one run by bureaucrats.
28	73	Have no further comments as I oppose the concept at this time
29	80	Single payer is fine, as long as the consumer is able to opt out and obtain their own, non-governmental policy, at their own expense. England figured this out years ago.
30	105	God forbid!
31	110	Overall the spirit is something I support. I think a radical change like this is unlikely to succeed. There is more interest in the AMA HOD nationally to support an idea like

		this. I would suggest removing the word "single" from the 1st resolved, and adding "available without age or income restriction" so that this is support for a "public option" for all to be able to access. This, in my view, is the best compromise between the two sides, and is the only way for ISMS or the AMA to actually obtain "universal access" to healthcare, which as their policy states, is a human right.
32	111	COVID has shown how incompetent government can be in healthcare.
33	112	single payer, high quality and free is an oxymoron; we are going to end up with healthcare like in Great Britain where nobody is happy
34	113	Strong support
35	116	Funding entirely by individual income taxes. Eliminate insurance companies and employers.
36	122	Given the challenges faced by both physicians and patients in providing care, it's increasingly clear that a single payer system is a very reasonable alternative to the current mess of a system we have. I would highly encourage the ISMS to adopt this resolution.
38	157	THIS IS WISHFUL THINKING AS DISCONNECTED FROM REALITY. A HEALTHCARE SYSTEM BASED ON ELIMINATION OF OTHER OPTIONS IS A RECIPE FOR DISASTER. IF LACK OF COMPETITION IS SO HELPFUL, LET US HAVE A SINGLE SOURCE OF CARS, FOOD, CLOTHES, HOUSING, ETC. THE MAJOR REASON SUPPORTING A SINGLE SYSTEM IS ABSENCE OF COMPARISON WITH BETTER SYSTEMS, BETTER PRODUCTS, AND HENCE, FULL-CONTROL. THOSE WHO IN GOOD FAITH ADVOCATE FOR TOTALITARIANISM IN ITS VARIED FORMS, POINT TO THE SHORTCOMINGS IN EXISTING SYSTEMS, WHICH ARE INDEED THERE. WHAT THEY FORGET IS THAT ALL HUMAN-CONSTRUCTS HAVE SHORTCOMINGS, PRODUCTS OF SELF -SERVICE AND GREED, INNATE TO HUMAN NATURE. WHAT CONTINUES TO SHOCK ME IS TO SEE MATURE PROFESSIONALS, WHO SHOULD KNOW BETTER, ASSUME THAT THEY CAN CONSTUCT A SYSTEM ABSENT OF GREED, WILL TO POWER, AND SELF-SERVICE, PARTICULARLY A SYSTEM DEPENDENT ON POLITICIANS AND BEAUROCRATS. COMPETITION IS WHAT MAINTAINS QUALITY, NOT POWER AND CONTROL. CONCENTRATED POWER IS THE GREATEST SOURCE OF EVIL. SELF-SERVING CAPITALISM MAY BE FULL OF SHORTCOMINGS, BUT THAT IS WHAT HAS POWERED THE BEST ECONOMY, (AGREE, NOT PERFECT), IN THE WORLD, IN A COUNTRY WHICH PEOPLE RISK THEIR LIVES TO MIGRATE TO. AS MY PATIENTS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED MEDICINE IN THEIR NATIVE COUNTRIES HAVE REMARKED,: "IT SOUNDS GOOD BUT THEY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IT IS REALLY LIKE. YOU HAVE TO WAIT 8 MONTHS FOR AN APPOINTMENT AND THEN YOU SEE A

NURSE." IF THE THE PURVEYORS OF THIS RESOLUTION REALLY WANT TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF CARE, LET THEM START BY ASKING FOR A SINGLE FREE COMPUTER SYSTEM RATHER THAN THE THOUSANDS OF NON-COMMUNICATING SYSTEMS, LET THEM DECREASE THE USELESS PAPERWORK CLOGGING THE WORKFLOW PERMITTING MORE TIME WITH PATIENTS, ABOVE ALL, LET THEM WORK ON RESOLVING THE MALPRACTICE.LET THE GOVERNMENT STOP INTERFERING WITH CARE, NOT COMPLETELY CONTROL IT. THE ROLE OF THE DOCTOR HAS BEEN SO DIMINISHED THAT OUR RESIDENTS ARE INTRODUCING THEMSELVES BY THEIR FIRST NAMES RATHER THAN "DOCTOR".

39 158 The two government programs in existence now reimburse at a level below the cost of providing the service. A single payer system will do no better.

40 175 This remains a bad idea.

41 177 We have addressed this on numerous occasions. While there is clearly waste in our current healthcare system, with the large administrative costs reducing the amount that is actually spent on health care, there are also negatives that would need to be addressed before this would be feasible and in doctors' best interests. If there is one payor, and they deny a service, who could you appeal to? Some level of competition and choice would be lost. Also, when there is a downturn in the economy, or when the government wants to save money due to economic factors, who would be able to prevent this single payor from reducing fees paid to providers, without regard to the cost for providing these services? Some countries that have single payor also have a secondary market for those who want a higher level of service. When Canadians do not want to wait months to have an MRI or surgery for gallbladder disease, they come to the US to get these issues addressed. There would need to be addressed many flaws with such a system that does not hold patients accountable for habits with respect to health. There would need to be a system to address and control the surging demand for health care in our society. No-one wants to mention the 800 lb gorilla which is that in order for such a system to work and not bankrupt government, there would need to be some form of rationing of healthcare in our country. I do not feel the public is aware of this or ready to deal with this. My vote is a strong NO to this type of resolution. High priority to oppose this type of resolution. ISMS does not need to take a stand on such a divisive topic as a member organization.

42 191 Socialism is not answer to our nation's woes. Move to Europe.

43 192 I support achieving universal coverage by placing a public system next to a robust private system.

44 215 All payor systems become corrupted We need several of them to compete for quality and service

45	216	Absolutely no I know we live in a Chicago democratic made star but that does not mean let's become socialists.
46	217	This goes against all I stand for in medicine. This will make me considered dropping my membership in Illinois State Medical Society if we should ultimately decide to support this.
47	227	Socialized medicine needs to go hand in hand with tort reform We also need to plan on developing high quality open access hospitals and clinics. The high cost of health care will put the hospitals out of business when/if commercial insurance disappears Developing dual private and public will probably be best. But the public has to offer high quality care
48	229	The road to hell is paved with good intentions. No choice is allowed. Like socialism or communism - it's attractive as a concept until it's actually implemented.
49	231	single payer system will not change healthcare cost just decrease provider reimbursement. If we want to change the cost of healthcare, we need to change from the partially capitated system where provider reimbursement is constantly under fire and shrinking and pharma drugs are not; to a fully capitated system where all drugs/devices/administration have the same types of limits applied to their services as physicians
50	233	I am for single payor system
51	235	None of the whereas a statements can be empirically supported. IN addition the statements do not take into the adverse impact that will occur under a government managed system. Everyone would have to accept Medicare/Medicaid level reimbursement.
52	237	I have supported single-payer initiatives all four decades of my professional life. The depth of health care inequities exposed during the coronavirus pandemic now makes the adoption of a comprehensive approach to access to care for all more important than ever. This should be our highest priority.
53	240	Single payor would be theoretically great, so long as it actually pays. If it simply becomes corrupted and consumed by agendas that have nothing to do with paying for actual health care, like most large pools of money handled by government bodies, it will be a complete disaster. At this point, given the extreme cuts to the physician fee schedule which have occurred over the last 20 years (I personally must perform seven surgeries to earn the same as one surgery would have paid in 1995 - when inflation is factored in), I cannot endorse an all powerful entity to responsibly get between me and my right to be paid for the work that I do. The Illinois Pension disaster is another example of why this grand idea cannot be trusted.

54	241	Absolutely not. Never would I invite more government intrusion into my practice to interfere with our doctor-patient relationship!
55	242	Throughout the pandemic it has become more aware to me that the interest of commercial insurance companies are severely out of alignment with the interest of patients and the interest of physicians. Wow the health of the nation has suffered and physicians have born the brunt of the risk both health and financially and providing care for those with Covid commercial insurance companies have reaped unprecedented profits based upon the under utilization of care. When this is viewed in the context of rapidly increasing physician employment the role of the private insurer should be relegated to that of secondary coverage for all of the nation citizens just as it is for seniors. The burdensome with inequitable Medicaid program should be eliminated with equal coverage for all citizens including pediatrics and seniors through a uniform Medicare for all program and commercial coverage position as it is for seniors to provide that which Medicare does not cover. Employers could provide this secondary coverage and or premium concierge services. But only by ensuring that all American citizens have equal access to high-quality healthcare including primary care services can we position our nation to continue to be a leader in the future. Healthcare should cease to be an example of the widening wealth gap in our nation.
56	243	A single payer system will undoubtedly result in physicians essentially working for the State of Illinois which historically has a terrible track record in debt payment and financial management. Resources should work towards insurance reform and taking back ownership of medical practice, rather than giving that duty to the state or federal government.
57	244	I agree that there should be a single payer government run health care system available to all. However, I am sure that this system will have its limitations and will need to require rationing and a requirement for all physicians to participate. It needs to allow for optional private pay for those who wish to purchase it. Stephen Kappel, MD
58	248	I strongly oppose the single payer system. Evidences show that the government run system does not work.. they create inefficiency. They pick "winners or losers " Based on political agendas and have not been held accountable for taxpayers. VA health system is an example of inefficiency. We don't want the government to control our healthcare and every aspect of our lives. I am very disappointed that our medical society to support such proposal!!!
59	254	Would add to the "resolved" a qualification to emphasize our continued support of the 3 features not included - e.g. 8. Health care reform proposals should include provisions for physicians to set and negotiate their own fees in order to

adequately compensate physicians and other health care providers for the promotion of personal and public health. 9. Evidence-based protocols should support, not replace the patient-physician relationship. 10. ISMS objects to third party insurance carriers interfering with the practice of medicine and the patient-physician relationship

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| 60 | 260 | I believe that Medicare for all is the best solution for everybody. |
| 61 | 261 | Absolutely will never support this resolution.. I have been practicing for 42 years and have seen the vast amount of time and beurocratic waste generated by governments regulation and control. I presume this would be the "single payer". We have already seen the erosion of healthcare in this country with more and more inadequately trained people treating patients. Even though there is a financial waste in the private insurance arena at least we have some competition. You know ,as well as I that as soon as there is no competition the restrictions on care and the access to physicians will decline. This situation is exactly what's happening in other countries, such as England and Germany and why people are buying private insurance even though the government supposedly provides Universal quality care. |
| 62 | 263 | I fully support this resolution. The US spends about 30% of its GDP on healthcare whereas most other countries spend about 20% and cover the entire population. There, only the wealthy receive bills |
| 63 | 264 | I am strongly opposed to the state or federal government being the only controller of health care in America! |
| 64 | 270 | I oppose this resolution, as I do not believe single payer is the policy direction we should be advocating for our patients and for ourselves. Switching the entire United States' health system to single payer will be incredibly disruptive for physicians and, more importantly, for patients. Although many people think access increases with single payer, most patients will find their choice and access to both physicians and procedures will decrease, instead waiting for long periods of time while their health concerns remain unanswered. Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) research has continued to show many people do not fully understand how single payer works and what a single payer system looks like for patients. KFF polling shows when you ask patients if they support single player, the majority of people say yes. However, when they are notified that this mean they lose access to private insurance and their cost-sharing changes to increased taxes, support dwindles to only a minority of people supporting single payer. I do not think it would be wise for us to advocate for something quite unpopular in the public's eye. Instead, we should show we care for increasing patients' access to physicians, while limiting cost, through other measures such as increased funding for Medicare and Medicaid, |

		expanding Obamacare, and making it easier for patients to understand costs within the health system. I appreciate having the opportunity to share my opinion with the Illinois State Medical Society leadership. Thank you for reading my thoughts.
65	271	This is so badly needed. ISMS is behind the times when it comes to health policy reform. Single-payer systems are far more equitable, transparent, and affordable - removing health insurance middlemen that drive inflation, spend exorbitant amounts on administration, and interfere with doctors' independent abilities to treat their patients best.
66	98	I do not believe that a universal health system is an answer to our problems. Nor do I feel we have any grounds to believe that a single-payer system would eliminate racial disparities. Remember, we are currently criticizing our government for its perpetuation of racial inequities, do we really want to hand over ALL authority to determine health care outcomes? Secondly, reforming the health care system starts with reducing the costs associated with health care, everything else will follow if the cost of medical care is less. In a universal system, the government cuts health care costs by LIMITING care to individuals who need it, and will further increase disparities. It is important to remember that health insurance does not equate to healthcare. Think about VA systems, Medicaid, and Medicare. These programs do not provide the health care that patients need, and expanding government health insurance plans is not going to equate to improvements in health care.
67	273	Gives too much control to one entity
68	275	It is best system to avoid corporate and non-physicians providing medical care
69	279	Chicago ain't ready for reform and this cruelly divided country needs issues that can bring us together.
70	300	this resolution is an overdue first step
71	301	This country cannot afford a single payer financing program! Money does not grow on trees! It is the final nail in the coffin of our profession! It is very important for this resolution to be emphatically defeated!