

ILLINOIS STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY

**Resolution 09.2024-15
(A-25)**

Introduced by: Howard Axe, MD, ISMS Member

Subject: Opposition to Censuring Medical Societies or Organizations Based
 on Politics or Policies of Governments

Referred to: Medical Legal Council

1 Whereas, the International Federation of Medical Student Associations (IFMSA)
2 is a global organization that fosters collaboration, education, and advocacy among
3 medical students from diverse countries; and
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5 Whereas, the IFMSA has suspended FISM (Federation of Israeli Students of
6 Medicine), a member society based on the perceived political or military policies of its
7 host country; and
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9 Whereas, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical
10 Association (AMA) uphold principles of equity, inclusion, and the importance of
11 engagement in a diverse global community; and
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13 Whereas, it is essential for medical organizations, including international medical
14 organizations, to focus on the advancement of medical education and the promotion of
15 human health rather than engaging in politically motivated actions that may undermine
16 the collaborative nature of their mission; and
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18 Whereas, censure of a member society based solely on the political or military
19 policies of its host government may unfairly penalize medical students who are working
20 toward positive change and who may not have control over their government's policies;
21 therefore, be it
22

23 RESOLVED, that the Illinois State Medical Society opposes any actions by any
24 member of the Federation of Medicine, including the International Federation Medical
25 Student Association (IFMSA) to censure or suspend a member society based on the
26 perceived political or military policies of its government; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, that the Illinois State Medical Society encourages IFMSA to
28 maintain a focus on its core mission of advancing medical education and fostering
29 international medical collaboration; and be it further
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31 RESOLVED, that the Illinois State Medical Society supports a policy framework
32 that promotes inclusive engagement and ensures that medical students from all states
33 and countries, regardless of their state's or nation's policies, have the opportunity to
34 participate and contribute to the global medical community; and be it further
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36 RESOLVED, that the Illinois Delegation to the American Medical Association
37 supports or causes the introduction of a resolution that conveys the opposition to the
38 censure of any medical group or society or organization, based on the politics or policies
39 of the local, state or national political leadership, such that the art and science of
40 medicine is kept separate from politics.

Fiscal Note:

n/a

Existing ISMS policy related to this issue:

The Society recommends that physicians affiliate with service clubs, local political action groups and participate to the fullest extent possible in affairs affecting the health and welfare of the residents of Illinois. (HOD 1980; Last BOT Review 2013)