

**ILLINOIS STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY**

**Resolution 02.2019-28  
(A-19)**

Introduced by: Eli Goodman, M.D., ISMS Member

Subject: Provision of Health Care in Illinois State Correctional Facilities

Referred to: Council on Education & Health Workforce

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1           Whereas, the mission of the ISMS is to promote better health for all its citizens,  
2 including those confined in Illinois' correctional facilities; and

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4           Whereas, proper medical care (including dental care) to the confined is a legal  
5 and moral obligation of the State and the medical profession; and

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7           Whereas, the health of the confined is also a public health issue that affects all  
8 citizens of the State; and

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10           Whereas, the current expenditure by the State for such healthcare to the confined  
11 in all the Illinois Department of Corrections facilities totals approximately one billion  
12 dollars per year; and

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14           Whereas, a large percentage of that expenditure goes to an out-of-state  
15 proprietary company that administrates and provides such healthcare; and

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17           Whereas, such company often seeks to maximize profit by limitation of services  
18 to the confined; and

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20           Whereas, the overall quality of healthcare to the confined under the direction of  
21 such proprietary company has been for many reasons largely suboptimal; and

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23           Whereas, there are many medical schools and large academic medical centers  
24 throughout the State that should be more formally involved with the provision and  
25 administration of healthcare to the confined; and

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27           Whereas, the provision of healthcare to the confined by such centers would result  
28 in significantly better medical care to the confined; and

1           Whereas, these large medical institutions would benefit from the increased  
2 revenues for such healthcare; and

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4           Whereas, these large medical institutions could use the healthcare of the confined  
5 to better teach medical students, residents, and fellows the specific challenges of  
6 corrections medicine; and

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8           Whereas, access to specialty, emergency, and post-release medical services to the  
9 confined would vastly improve if the State's large medical institutions directly provided  
10 all medical care to the confined; and

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12           Whereas several states have such a system with excellent outcomes in all aspects;  
13 therefore, be it

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15           RESOLVED, that ISMS encourage the Illinois Department of Corrections to  
16 eliminate the use of a proprietary company to administrate and provide medical care  
17 services in the State's correctional facilities; and be it further

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19           RESOLVED, that ISMS encourage that the State's medical schools and large  
20 academic centers assume entirely the health care of all those confined in the State's  
21 correctional facilities.

**Fiscal Note:**

N/A

**Existing ISMS policy related to this issue:**

N/A