

RESOLUTION

Subject: Prevention of Medical Liability for Volunteer Physicians

Submitted by: Lexington Medical Society

Referred to: Reference Committee

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WHEREAS, public institutions, service organizations and non-profit agencies provide many occasions for physicians to engage in volunteer practice activities; and

WHEREAS, most of these groups serve low income or indigent patients; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky has a major shortage of physicians, especially primary care physicians; and

WHEREAS, federal health care reform is likely to exacerbate this shortage of physician services to indigent residents of Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, most voluntary practice activities require liability insurance; and

WHEREAS, other states provide immunity for uncompensated care of service/low income patients but such protection is not present in Kentucky; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that KMA supports physicians volunteering their services to provide medical care within their communities; and be it further

RESOLVED, that KMA supports legislation in the Kentucky General Assembly to extend immunity to medical liability to physicians engaged in providing voluntary health care.