



Title: Advocate for Jail and Prison Healthcare Reform

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- 1 **WHEREAS**, individuals are ineligible for Medicaid while they are incarcerated due to the federal Medicaid Inmate
2 Exclusion Policy, the entire cost of providing medical care in jails and prisons falls on the counties and states, and
- 3 **WHEREAS**, a new Bureau of Justice report reveals that over 1,000 people died in local jails in 2016 and at least half
4 of the deaths were preventable, and
- 5 **WHEREAS**, the incarcerated population in federal and state prisons has risen from 200,000 in the 1970s to 1.5
6 million people today, and
- 7 **WHEREAS**, people in jail and prison are more likely to have chronic health conditions and infectious diseases, are
8 five times more likely to have a serious mental illness, and two-thirds have a substance use disorder, they often
9 experience serious medical and mental health crises while incarcerated due to a loss of their medications for chronic
10 conditions, and
- 11 **WHEREAS**, the interruption of effective treatment for mental health conditions and substance use disorders lead to a
12 cycle that has 70% of individuals re-incarcerated within three years of release, and
- 13 **WHEREAS**, the interruption of treatment is often a result of bureaucratic delay in reinstating Medicaid services, and
- 14 **WHEREAS**, the care for incarcerated individuals is increasingly being administered by large companies bought by
15 large equity firms. These firms may operate up to 500 facilities across multiple states and are associated with sub-
16 standard care as revealed in investigative reports from CNN. These firms also have contracts which incentivize cost
17 containment through denial of care; now, therefore, be it
- 18 **RESOLVED**, that Michigan Academy of Family Physicians request that American Academy of Family Physicians
19 advocate for the repeal of the Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy; and be it further
- 20 **RESOLVED**, that Michigan Academy of Family Physicians request that American Academy of Family Physicians
21 advocate for federal policies requiring that prisons and jails adhere to the surrounding community standard of care
22 that would be legally defined per malpractice litigation; and be it further
- 23 **RESOLVED**, that Michigan Academy of Family Physicians request that American Academy of Family Physicians
24 require comprehensive quality improvement activities similar to those present in the surrounding communities; and
25 be it further

26 **RESOLVED**, that Michigan Academy of Family Physicians request that American Academy of Family Physicians
27 advocate for statutes that would require healthcare agencies caring for incarcerated populations to provide formulary
28 access to behavioral health medications consistent with each state's Medicaid program formulary.