

2026 Reference Committee Governmental Affairs B

FINAL ACTIONS

100 Insurer Authorizations Are The Practice of Medicine (*3rd & 4th Districts*) and
110 Banning Ghost Peer Reviewers for Preauthorization Review (*Ninth District Branch County Medical Societies of Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, and Westchester Counties*)

SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION ACCEPTED IN LIEU OF RESOLUTIONS 100 AND 110.

RESOLVED, that our Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) seek legislation and/or regulation regarding insurance company utilization reviewers to require the person charged with authorization decisions to provide their full name, specialty and NPI, in order to maintain transparency, fulfill the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Privacy Act (HIPAA), and allow for accountability should the decision be called into question.

RESOLVED, that MSSNY seek legislation and/or regulation regarding utilization review so that the reviewing physician be licensed in New York State and therefore, accountable to New York State authorities for the consequences of these clinically important decisions; and be it further

RESOLVED, that MSSNY's AMA representatives ask the AMA to amend their Policy H-285-939, subsection (2) to amended to read as follows:

That medical directors of insurance entities be held accountable and liable for medical decisions regarding contractually covered medical services including prior authorizations.

101 Medicaid Fraud & Abuse (*3rd & 4th Districts*)

NOT ADOPTED

102 No More Cell Phone Dead Zones in New York State (*Arthur Fougner, MD, The Medical Society of the County of Queens*)

SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION ACCEPTED IN LIEU OF RESOLUTIONS 102.

RESOLVED, that our Medical Society of the State of New York will support efforts that improve broadband and cellular access to enhance necessary patient-physician communications for rural New Yorkers, such as encouraging funding under the federal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program.

103 MSSNY to Advocate for Deprivatizing NY Medicaid (*Phillip Gioia, MD, MPH, Cayuga County Delegation*)

ADOPTED

RESOLVED, The Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) advocate to support New York State (NYS) to administer a “deprivatized” statewide uniform efficient Medicaid program provided by a single government or public not-for-profit organization with low administrative costs, Statewide rules and regulations, using primary care providers to authorize most services, and to primarily benefit the health of patients, physicians, other providers of care, and NYS; and be it further

RESOLVED, The Medical Society of the State of New York advocates that resources will be allocated to maximize health benefits for all in New York State (NYS) including optimal - health promotion, disease detection/treatment, healthcare and/or administration using currently available/future standard data without burdening physicians and other providers with administrative/data entry/reporting requirements.

104 Close Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) Loopholes and Enforce DFS Market-Conduct Rules (*Nassau County*)

SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION ACCEPTED IN LIEU OF RESOLUTIONS 104.

RESOLVED, that Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) advocate for Department of Financial Services (DFS) enforcement of the 2024 Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM) rule with audits and penalties; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) request Department of Financial Services (DFS) to require Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM)s to publish consumer contact channels and timely response Service Level Agreements (SLAs); and be it further

RESOLVED, that Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) request that Department of Financial Services (DFS) require Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM)s to report annual complaint and appeal statistics.

105 Identifying Credentialed Physicians Online (*Nassau County*)

SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION ACCEPTED IN LIEU OF RESOLUTIONS 105.

RESOLVED, that Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) encourage physicians sharing general medical information online to clearly identify themselves and list their qualifications such as, but not limited to, degree, license, and board certification status.

RESOLVED, that Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) promote awareness among physicians about the importance of qualification transparency when engaging in online health communication; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) encourage physicians to educate their patients about the importance of verifying medical qualifications when seeking medical advice online.

106 Medical Students Should Take on More Debt Says Someone (*Nassau County*)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED

Title Change/New Title: “Medical Student Loans Should Not Be Capped”

107 Discharge Summaries from Skilled Nursing Facilities (*Steven Kaner, MD/Medical Society County of Kings*)

SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION ACCEPTED IN LIEU OF RESOLUTIONS 107.

RESOLVED, that the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) educate their members as to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Policy (8) regarding skilled nursing facilities’ (SNF) responsibility to create and timely deliver a comprehensive patient discharge summary to a patient’s outpatient primary care physician (PCP), and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) forward this resolution to the American Medical Association.

108 Support for Affordable and Predictable Medical Education Financing in New York State (*Sanjida Riea, Megan Barber, Medical Students, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, 8th District*)

SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION ACCEPTED IN LIEU OF RESOLUTIONS 108.

RESOLVED, That the Medical Society of the State of New York advocate that medical school tuition within New York state remains fixed at the rate in effect at the time of matriculation for students who graduate on time.

109 The Lack of Maternal Health Care in Rural New York State Is a Public Health Emergency (*Medical Society of the County of Erie*)
ADOPTED

RESOLVED, that the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) shall actively engage with and advocate in support of state-wide efforts led by health care systems, health professional training programs, policymakers, and rural health advocacy groups that work to identify and address structural barriers to maternal health care delivery and advance sustainable, physician-led models of maternity care capable of strengthening rural maternity health care infrastructure across New York State; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) shall advocate for and support legislative and regulatory actions to secure emergency-level funding for maternal health care initiatives across New York State, including policies that strengthen Medicaid reimbursement, expand workforce training pipelines, and improve the recruitment and retention of physicians and other clinicians essential to closing persistent gaps in rural maternal health care access.

111 Protecting Healthcare as a Sensitive Location (*Bronx County Medical Society, District 5, District 6, Resident and Fellow Section, Young Physicians Section, Health Equity Committee*)

ADOPTED

RESOLVED, That the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) adopt American Medical Association (AMA) policies Presence and Enforcement Actions of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Healthcare (D-160.921), Opposition to Criminalization of Medical Care Provided to Undocumented Immigrant Patients (H-440.876), Mass Deportation as a Public Health Issue (H-440.793), and Patient and Physician Rights Regarding Immigration Status (H-315.966); and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) collaborate with local organizations representing health care workers and patients impacted by immigration enforcement activities to develop, and advocate to state officials to adopt, disseminate, and enforce guidance for health care facilities on keeping patients and health care workers safe; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) collaborate with state societies where immigration enforcement in health care facility guidance has been developed, and with the American Medical Association (AMA) Advocacy Resource Center, to develop model legislation and regulation for states to adopt to better protect patients and health care workers from inappropriate intrusion of federal immigration agents in health care facilities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) collaborate with the American Medical Association (AMA) and the Joint Commission to develop health care facility standards related to immigration enforcement.

112 Support State-Run Medicaid in New York (*MSSNY Resident/Fellow Section and MSSNY Young Physicians Section*)

ADOPTED

RESOLVED, that MSSNY supports legislative, regulatory, and other advocacy efforts that end NYS's dependence on managed Medicaid plans, and a transition to a state-run Medicaid plan.

113 Establishing Due Process and Accountability Standards for Third- Party Prior Authorization Utilization Management Administrators and Ensuring Physician Access to Health Plan Medical Directors (*Hemant Kalia MD, MPH*)

REFERRED TO COUNCIL