

**AMERICAN MEDICAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION
HOUSE OF DELEGATES 2017
RESOLUTION: B16**

INTRODUCED BY: Devki Joshi, Chair, Action Committee on Race, Ethnicity and Culture in Health; Eva Shelton, Programming Coordinator, Action Committee on Race, Ethnicity and Culture in Health; Luis Carlos Perez, Advocacy Coordinator, Action Committee on Race, Ethnicity and Culture in Health

SCHOOL: SUNY Downstate College of Medicine; University of Wisconsin-Madison; Baylor College of Medicine

SUBJECT: Principles Regarding Healthcare in the Criminal Justice System (new principle)

TYPE: Resolution of Principles

WHEREAS there is no principle regarding healthcare in the criminal justice system

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Principles Regarding Healthcare in the Criminal Justice System be **AMENDED** to state:

The American Medical Student Association:

1. **CONDEMNS** cruel, inhuman and degrading conditions including but not limited to overcrowding, violence, and sexual abuse, which pose grave risks to prisoner health and safety;
2. **OPPOSES** solitary confinement, torture and the expansion of “supermax” prisons;
3. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the lack of access to of adequate medical, reproductive and mental health care in prison systems and **ENCOURAGES** the expansion of these services at every level of the criminal justice system;
4. **SUPPORTS** the movement for prison industrial complex abolition which seeks to advance the goal of eliminating imprisonment, policing, and surveillance and create lasting alternatives to punishment and imprisonment;
5. **ENCOURAGES** in the process of prison industrial complex abolition to increase efforts to evaluate and, if indicated, divert convicted or alleged offenders being held in jails or prisons with long-term medical problems to alternate forms of

1 confinement, such as halfway houses, work releases, education or group homes,
2 to more effectively deal with their medical problems.

3
4 6. ENCOURAGES the development of adequate screening, maintenance and
5 emergency health-care facilities in jails, prisons detention centers, and
6 rehabilitation centers and FUTHER ENCOURAGES medical schools to prioritize
7 development of these programs.

8
9 7. SUPPORTS efforts of correctional facilities to use the least restrictive restraints
10 necessary when the facility has an actual or constructive knowledge that an
11 inmate is in the 2nd or 3rd trimester of pregnancy. No restraints of any kind shall
12 be used on an inmate who is in labor, delivering her baby or recuperating from
13 delivery unless there are compelling grounds to believe that the inmate presents:
14 an immediate and serious threat or harm to herself, staff, or other correctional
15 officers should be available and required to remove shackles immediately upon
16 request of medical personnel.

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19 FISCAL NOTE: None
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21 REPORT OF REFERENCE COMMITTEE B

22 23 DISCUSSION

24 **BOT:** Recommends the following changes to the resolution

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26 ~~5. ENCOURAGES in the process of prison industrial complex abolition to~~ SUPPORTS
27 increased efforts to evaluate and, if indicated, divert convicted or alleged offenders being
28 held in jails or prisons with long-term medical problems to alternate forms of
29 confinement, such as halfway houses, work releases, education or group homes, to more
30 effectively deal with their medical problems.

31 6. ENCOURAGES the development of adequate screening, maintenance and emergency
32 health-care facilities in jails, prisons detention centers, and rehabilitation centers ~~and~~
33 ~~FUTHER ENCOURAGES medical schools to prioritize development of these programs.~~

34
35 7. SUPPORTS efforts of correctional facilities to use the least restrictive restraints
36 necessary to restrain inmates. ~~when the facility has an actual or constructive knowledge~~
37 ~~that an inmate is in the 2nd or 3rd trimester of pregnancy. No restraints of any kind shall~~
38 ~~be used on an inmate who is in labor, delivering her baby or recuperating from delivery~~
39 ~~unless there are compelling grounds to believe that the inmate presents: an immediate and~~
40 ~~serious threat or harm to herself, staff, or other correctional officers should be available~~
41 ~~and required to remove shackles immediately upon request of medical personnel.~~

42
43 SUPPORTS efforts of correctional facilities to use the least restrictive restraints
44 necessary to restrain inmates.
45

1 **BRD:** Adopt as written.
2 **PRD:** Adopt as written.
3 **IRD:** Adopt as written.
4 **ACTE:** Adopt as written
5 **International Caucus:** None.
6 **Premedical Caucus:** None.
7 **Resident Caucus:** None.
8 **Other Groups:** None.
9 **Other Discussion:** None.

10 11 **SYNTHESIS OF DISCUSSION**

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13 Aside from BOT's testimony of recommended changes [see above] no other suggested
14 amendments were given.
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16 **REFERENCE COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

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18 The reference committee highly is concerned that considering criminal inmates living out
19 there sentences in alternate forms of confinement like halfway houses is deemed
20 unreasonable. There is considerable vague language in the proposition. This proposal
21 requires a subcommittee to further discuss the proposition adequately, further research
22 and reword the language.
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24 **REFERENCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

25
26 Reject and refer to subcommittee:
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28 The current Chair [Action Committee on Race, Ethnicity and Culture in Health], the
29 Chair, [Community Public Health], Chair [Professionalism in Ethics] and Secretary will
30 draft new-amended resolution before May 1st 2017 to be submitted to HOD 2018.
31

32 In this subcommittee, the current Secretary will lead the research and discussion to
33 adequately provide a resolution that is reasonable, ethical and encompasses inmate
34 cultural sensitivity. The Chairs in Professionalism in Ethics and Action Committee on
35 Race, Ethnicity and Culture in Health will facilitate the Secretary with research and
36 discussion.