

**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

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

6. ENCOURAGES the development of adequate screening, maintenance and emergency health-care facilities in jails, prisons detention centers, and rehabilitation centers and FUTHER ENCOURAGES medical schools to prioritize development of these programs.
7. SUPPORTS efforts of correctional facilities to use the least restrictive restraints necessary when the facility has an actual or constructive knowledge that an inmate is in the 2nd or 3rd trimester of pregnancy. No restraints of any kind shall be used on an inmate who is in labor, delivering her baby or recuperating from delivery unless there are compelling grounds to believe that the inmate presents: an immediate and serious threat or harm to herself, staff, or other correctional officers should be available and required to remove shackles immediately upon request of medical personnel.

FISCAL NOTE: None