
**AMERICAN MEDICAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION
HOUSE OF DELEGATES 2016
RESOLUTION: A11**

INTRODUCED BY:	Jim Curry, Member Health Care for All Campaign; Michael Sparks, International Trustee
SCHOOL:	University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago; Ross University School of Medicine
SUBJECT:	Amendment to Principles Regarding Preventative Medicine and Public Health
TYPE:	Resolution of Principles

1 WHEREAS the Zika Virus is rapidly spreading among the Americas due to the habits and geography of its host mosquito
2 species [1]; and
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4 WHEREAS residence in, as well as travel to and from, endemic and epidemic areas will affect significant numbers of
5 patients; and
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7 WHEREAS several of the now epidemic country outbreaks will be sites of worldwide and regional events; and
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9 WHEREAS the increasing territory of Zika poses a threat to several portions of the U.S., potentially aided through climate
10 change by vector spread; and
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12 WHEREAS the adult, gestational and developmental effects of Zika pose a substantial public health threat; and
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14 WHEREAS preventive measures for infection of Zika virus have spillover benefits for other similarly transmitted and
15 related diseases;
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17 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Principles Regarding Preventative Medicine and Public Health (p. 83) be
18 AMENDED BY ADDITION to state:
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20 14. SUPPORTS taking steps to appraise members and the public of resources available to help prevent and recognize
21 infection and transmission of the Zika virus;
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23
24 Fiscal note: None
25

**REPORT OF REFERENCE COMMITTEE A
DISCUSSION**

BOT: Vote to reject 10-0-0; members feel that in the PPP language already exists in support of public health, particularly infectious disease and epidemiology. The members feel that by specifically naming the Zika virus will set a precedent of continuously adding specific resolutions for new outbreaks, as epidemiology is continuously changing; the members feel that it would be “inefficient” to name this particular virus.

BRD: recommends to reject as written

PRD: ***

IRD: recommends to reject as written; members feel that this language already exists in the PPP.

[1] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2016). Zika Virus. Accessed online at: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/>

ACTE: recommends to adopt with amendment to the word “appraise” to “educate.”

Premedical Caucus: ***

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

PROS: No proposition testimony provided

CONS: The majority of members express the concern that 1) similar language already exists in the PPP and 2) it is futile to specifically name a current outbreak, as diseases are constantly being discovered and changing.

REFERENCE COMMITTEE COMMENTS

The majority of regions and caucuses are not in favor of this resolution.

REFERENCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Recommend to reject.