

PROTECT PHYSICIAN AND HEALTH CARE PROVIDER INTEGRITY FROM POLITICAL INTERFERENCE RESOLUTION

Summary: The Protect Physician and Health Care Integrity from Political Interference Resolution recognizes the right of individuals to obtain accurate health care information without government interference and for physicians or other health care providers to refuse state-dictated procedures and mandated lectures that violate accepted medical standards and the ethics of their profession.

Based on the City of _____ Resolution adopted _____.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, across the country, policymakers are passing abortion laws that violate patient privacy and conflict with professional and ethical standards of medical care. The laws they are enacting put [politicians' words](#) in the mouths of health care providers, [prohibit providers](#) from communicating important health information, mandate [unnecessary procedures](#) or outdated modes of care, and [much more](#); and

WHEREAS, when government regulations infringe upon medical standards or interfere in the doctor-patient relationship, they undermine patient-centered care. "Politicians are increasingly overstepping their boundaries by considering and enacting unprecedented numbers of measures that inappropriately infringe on clinical practice and patient-physician relationships and improperly intrude into the realm of medical professionalism, often without regard to established, evidence-based care guidelines" [according to the executive leadership](#) of the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American College of Physicians, and the American College of Surgeons; and

WHEREAS, In fact, the American Medical Association adopted a [resolution](#) in opposition to "any government regulation or legislative action on the content of the individual clinical encounter between a patient and physician or health care provider without a compelling evidence-based benefit to the patient, a substantial public health justification, or both"; and

WHEREAS, Political interference in reproductive health care has become commonplace. For example, some states require reproductive health providers to give patients seeking abortion care medically inaccurate information that falsely asserts a link between abortion and breast cancer. Others require providers to tell patients that medication abortion may be "reversible," an assertion that has no medical support. In some states the legislature has passed laws to require medical providers to perform an ultrasound regardless of need prior to an abortion (in some states providers must describe and display the image). Laws requiring these ultrasounds have already been proposed in Montana and defeated. In other states legislators have forced reproductive health care providers to delay abortion care for up to 72 hours for no medical reason; and

WHEREAS, all patients deserve health care that is medically appropriate and based on scientific evidence. All health care providers should be able to give their patients high quality, individualized care based on their professional judgment, without fear of political intrusion that undermines professional standards of care. All patients are entitled to receive care based on their individual needs and what is medically appropriate, not on a political ideology; therefore be it;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the City of _____ recognizes that since antiquity, physicians and other health care providers have taken an oath to treat patients to the best of their ability, with knowledge rooted in clinical experience and scientific consensus; and be it further

RESOLVED the City of _____ recognizes physicians and health care providers have both a professional and an ethical responsibility to provide the best possible care to their patients; and be it further

RESOLVED the City of _____ condemns the acts of states and others that have made it difficult, and in some cases even illegal, for doctors to keep that sacred obligations and uphold medical oath, including laws enacted requiring doctors to lie to patients about medical evidence, to keep silent even when the doctor has an ethical duty to speak, to perform medical procedures that are unnecessary and contrary to good medical practices, and to delay medical procedures even when delay is not only unnecessary, but may be harmful to the patient; and be it further

RESOLVED the City of _____ supports the obligation of health care providers to provide the best possible medical care to every patient, allowing physicians and other health care providers to provide evidence-based, medically accurate care; and be it further

RESOLVED the City of _____ recognizes the need to provide the best medical care and, on behalf of the citizens of the City of _____, we pass this Resolution to support protecting the health, safety and welfare of patients by supporting evidence based, medically accurate reproductive health care; and be it further

RESOLVED, that suitable copies of this Resolution be delivered to the President of the United States, all members of the United States Congress, all statewide elected officials in Montana, the leaders of all Tribal Nations in Montana, members of the Montana Legislature, _____ County Commissioners, and _____.