

January 13, 1976

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

Whereas,

the primary aim of the Arizona Public Health Association is to promote the health of the public through preventive and promotive efforts,

and comprehensive health and medical care programs provide a range of preventive, promotive, curative and rehabilitative services,

and current medical care programs available to the medically indigent and supported by the taxpayer are crisis oriented,

and the medically indigent population has a higher proportion of chronic health problems leading to varying degrees of episodic illness and disabilities requiring long term rehabilitative programs,

and funding for long term programs and custodial care far exceeds the expenditures directed toward primary prevention and early detection,

and the medical indigent in Arizona has unequal opportunity to receive comprehensive health services under the present programs which vary from County to County,

and medically indigent persons should be permitted equal access and a choice in their selection of health practitioners,

and there is a discrepancy in the number of persons eligible for the services currently available to the indigent and the numbers actually participating in various County programs,

Therefore, be it resolved:

That the Arizona Public Health Association endorses the concept of comprehensive health and medical care through the Medicaid program and urges the legislators to fulfill an obligation to a population which has been channeled into a separate and different system which provides a separate and different standard of health and medical care.

We believe the Medicaid program should be implemented as originally legislated.

The Association further recognizes and commends the legislators on their awareness of the EPSDT portion of Medicaid which is designed to bring children into the health care system early thereby promoting preventive services and eventually reducing adult health problems. This program alone could put Arizona far ahead of the other States by reducing the costs of long term illness through prevention and promotion of public health.

