

September, 1981

RESOLUTION CONCERNING LOCATION OF SERVICES
IN ANY INDIGENT HEALTH CARE PROGRAM

Whereas, Arizona is currently proposing to enter into an experimental indigent health care program, utilizing federal support based on waivers from the Medicaid program;

Whereas, the proposed program has been reported to contain provisions which require the consumer of health services to go to the recipient of a pre-paid contract to obtain care, even if there be only a single provider location in a given county;

Whereas, experience in California and elsewhere demonstrates that individuals in need of medical care will often not present for such care if it is not readily accessible, resulting in a deprivation of services to the medically needy; and

Whereas, the Arizona Public Health Association, meeting in 1976, passed a resolution affirming the principle that "medically indigent persons should be permitted equal access" to health services;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Arizona Public Health Association reaffirm the principle of equal access to medical services for the medically indigent and urge the Arizona State Legislature and the Governor not to pass any legislation which places substantial restrictions on the accessibility of health services for the medically indigent; and

Be it further resolved, that an appropriate measure of the accessibility of health services for the medically indigent be the accessibility of medical services to the general population in the area to be served, with the requirement that health services for the medically indigent be no less accessible than health services for the non-indigent in the same area.

Approved
9-25-81
JEM