

From the IAFP All Member Assembly, October 4, 2007

Late Resolution A

Submitted by: Arvind K. Goyal, MD

Subject: Professional Freedom from Drug Company and Insurance Company Support

Whereas, our patients, our own profession, the media, and the government are increasingly scrutinizing what they perceive as physicians' cozy relationship with representatives of drug companies whose products we prescribe and insurance companies who (don't) pay on claims for services rendered to our patients, and

Whereas, high cost of prescription medicines is by some and in some part being attributed to the professional marketing expenses incurred by the drug companies in entertaining physicians, their office staffs and families and paying for physicians' CME, and

Whereas, many physicians value the educational and informational materials supplied by the representatives of the drug companies and the insurance companies, especially those that are not biased towards their own products, at a significant expense of the physicians' time taken away from patient care, and

Whereas, many medical organizational activities and meetings are currently sponsored by drug companies and insurance companies which should be covered by the membership and registration fees charged of members and grants from other sources; be it, therefore,

Resolved, that the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians gradually free itself from any financial support for its activities and projects from drug companies and insurance companies, and those representatives should not participate as permanent members of any board or committees of the Academy (except upon special invitation as guests on specific items of discussion); and further

Resolved, that the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians introduce and work to pass a similar resolution at the next business meeting of the American Academy of Family Physicians Delegates asking the AAFP to free itself from any financial support for its activities and projects from drug companies and insurance companies; and further

Resolved, that the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians provide an annual informational report at the Annual All Member Assembly of any support received on behalf of the Academy from the Drug Companies and the Insurance Companies during the previous year for each of the next 5 years.