

SUBJECT: Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation Health Partnership Program

SUBMITTED BY: Ohio Osteopathic Association Board of Trustees

1 RESOLVED, that the following POLICY STATEMENT be amended and affirmed:

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3 WHEREAS, osteopathic physicians have traditionally provided care for injured workers in the
4 State of Ohio; and

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6 WHEREAS, THE OHIO OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION, BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES,
7 ORGANIZED LABOR, OTHER HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER ORGANIZATIONS, AND
8 THE BUREAU OF WORKERS COMPENSATION JOINTLY CREATED THE HEALTH
9 PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (HPP) AS A UNIQUE MANAGED-CARE SYSTEM TO MEET
10 CUSTOMERS' NEEDS FOR YEARS TO COME; AND

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12 WHEREAS, HPP IS TRULY A PARTNERSHIP, WHERE THE PRIVATE-SECTOR
13 MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS (MCOS) ARE WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE
14 BWC TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE CLAIMS-MANAGEMENT AND MEDICAL-
15 MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES OF OHIO; NOW
16 THEREFORE, BE IT

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18 ~~WHEREAS, the Ohio Osteopathic Association (OOA) had been instrumental in working with~~
19 ~~multiple stakeholder groups from the State of Ohio to develop the Health Partnership Program~~
20 ~~(HPP) to reform processes of the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation to help injured~~
21 ~~workers get the care that they needed in a timely fashion; and~~

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23 ~~WHEREAS, osteopathic physicians provide a holistic approach to caring for injured workers in~~
24 ~~an attempt to give them appropriate and efficient treatments to get them back to work as soon as~~
25 ~~they are able to do so; and~~

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27 ~~WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, due to several changes at the Bureau of Worker's Compensation,~~
28 ~~over the last year, has seen fit to significantly downsize the BWC Provider Relations Staff; and~~

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30 ~~WHEREAS, any increase in the time and effort required to process BWC claims, in physician~~
31 ~~offices, will likely decrease access of injured workers to osteopathic physicians and other~~
32 ~~providers; now therefore be it~~

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34 ~~RESOLVED, that the OOA support legislation to avoid dismantling of the BWC's Health~~
35 ~~Partnership Program; and be it further~~

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37 RESOLVED, that the OOA, through its BUREAU OF WORKERS COMPENSATION
38 representatives to the BWC, work to be an CONTINUE TO activeLY PARTICIPATE
39 participant in any attempts to reform ON-GOING EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE
40 the HEALTH PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (HPP), so as to maintain AS an

41 efficient process for Ohio's injured workers and the osteopathic physicians who provide care for
42 them.