

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: 407  
(A-10)

Introduced by: California Delegation  
Subject: Adult Film Industry Worker Safety and Health  
Referred to: Reference Committee D  
(Diana E. Ramos, MD, Chair)

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1 Whereas, The adult film industry is an \$11 billion dollar industry in the US, and California is the  
2 largest center for adult film production with estimated revenue generated in Los Angeles County  
3 at \$3 billion in 2003; and  
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5 Whereas, Performers in the adult film industry are routinely exposed to unhealthy working  
6 conditions through multiple and concurrent sex partners over short time periods, prolonged  
7 episodes of sexual contact, high risk sexual practices and limited use of condoms; and  
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9 Whereas, Transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), including  
10 chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, hepatitis A, B and C, herpes, human papillomavirus and fecal  
11 pathogens has serious health consequences for performers, their partners and the larger  
12 community; and  
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14 Whereas, HIV transmission occurred in performers in 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2004, and  
15 between 2004 and 2008, and over 2,850 STDs cases were diagnosed among 2,000 performers;  
16 and  
17

18 Whereas, Nationally, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and in  
19 California (CalOSHA) require employers to provide a safe and healthful workplace for  
20 employees per requirements under the federal Bloodborne Pathogen Standard and Illness and  
21 Injury Prevention Standard in Title 8 of the California Code of Regulation; and  
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23 Whereas, Despite these requirements, there has been no apparent compliance by the industry  
24 and a continued lack of employer responsibility for worker health and safety; and  
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26 Whereas, Adult film models' unsafe sex can affect the behavior of those who view them,  
27 especially adolescents who learn sexual expectations and practices in part via these media;  
28 therefore be it  
29

30 RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association support legislation that would require the  
31 mandatory use of condoms in the production of adult films (Directive to Take Action); and be it  
32 further  
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34 RESOLVED, That our AMA support legislation that would improve the ability of local health  
35 departments and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to investigate and  
36 control occupational exposures to infectious diseases and enforce workplace regulations in a  
37 timely manner (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

- 1 RESOLVED, That our AMA urge that existing OSHA and other occupational standards be
- 2 vigorously enforced to reduce exposure to infectious diseases within the adult film industry.
- 3 (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Implement accordingly at estimated staff cost of \$1,688.

Received: 04/13/10

#### **RELEVANT AMA POLICY**

**D-20.994 Preservation of HIV and STD Prevention Programs Involving Safer Sex Strategies and Condom Use** - Our AMA: (1) urge the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to maintain the on-line fact sheet and curriculum on HIV and STD prevention education involving condom use and to continue to augment the fact sheet as new information is developed; and (2) issue a letter to Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to express grave concern that funding, promotion, and institutional support for safer sex programs, including those that involve condom use, not be compromised. (Res. 732, I-02)