

TENNESSEE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

May 17, 2025

Resolution No. 04 -25

INTRODUCED BY: REEVES JOHNSON, MD
KNOXVILLE ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

SUBJECT: ACKNOWLEDGING THE VALUE OF THE TENNESSEE MEDICAL
FOUNDATION (TMF)

1 Whereas, The Tennessee Medical Foundation (TMF) was created in 1978 by the
2 Tennessee Medical Association (TMA) House of Delegates as a program for
3 the purpose of “detection and rehabilitation of impaired or disabled
4 physicians,”ⁱ and established as a permanent Committee on Impaired
5 Physicians by the TMA Board of Trusteesⁱⁱ; and
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7 Whereas, The Impaired Physician Program and its operations were transferred to
8 the Tennessee Medical Foundation, Inc.ⁱⁱⁱ; and
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10 Whereas, Since the 1992 transfer, the TMF is grateful that the TMA has been a
11 consistent major supporter of the TMF, both financially and by making its
12 membership aware of its services and effectiveness; and
13
14 Whereas, Since its inception the TMF has worked with over 4,000 Tennessee physicians
15 and other health professionals, initially with alcohol and drug-related
16 impairments and in more recent years with mental, emotional, behavioral
17 health, and other impairing conditions; and
18
19 Whereas, Recent outcome data has shown that 91% of TMF participants have
20 successfully completed five-year monitoring agreements; and
21
22 Whereas, The TMF continues to deliver expert health, illness, and impairment
23 education to physicians, medical students, and other healthcare
24 professionals across Tennessee free of charge; and
25
26 Whereas, The TMF maintains a robust library of professional health, impairment,
27 and wellbeing resources that includes the free, confidential, and
28 anonymous Tennessee Professional Screening Questionnaire that has
29 served over 900 physicians and other healthcare providers; and

1 Whereas, The Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners, Board of Osteopathic
2 Examination, and multiple other state health related regulatory boards,
3 including those for physician assistants, respiratory therapists, x-ray
4 technicians, and at least six other professions, rely heavily on the TMF for
5 evaluation, advice, recommendations, treatment, monitoring, and
6 aftercare of their licensees, trainees, and students with substance use,
7 behavioral, psychiatric, boundary, burnout, cognitive, and other mental
8 health issues that may or will impair their ability to practice safe and
9 effective medicine; and

10
11 Whereas, The TMA and its component medical societies recognize the value and
12 importance of the TMF to the health and professional livelihood of
13 Tennessee physicians; Now, therefore be it

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15 **RESOLVED,** That the Tennessee Medical Association acknowledges and is grateful for the
16 work and mission of the Tennessee Medical Foundation; and be it further

17
18 **RESOLVED,** That the Tennessee Medical Association pledges to continue to support the
19 Tennessee Medical Foundation both financially and by promoting its
20 mission of Saving Lives, Saving Careers.

Sunset: 2032

Fiscal note: To be determined by Finance Committee

ⁱ TMA HOD Resolution 7-78, by Memphis and Shelby County Medical Society, April 12, 1978; Adopted as Amended.

ⁱⁱ TMA Board of Trustees action, July 9, 1978.

ⁱⁱⁱ TMA HOD Resolution 23-92, by John R. Nelson, Jr., MD, Chairman of the TMA Board of Trustees, June 1992; Adopted.