American Medical Association Opposes HIV Criminalization

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The House of Delegates of the American Medical Association (AMA) has adopted a resolution that condemns HIV discrimination and supports modernization of HIV-related criminal laws, according to a statement by the Center for HIV Law and Policy (CHLP), which helped medical students advocate within the AMA for the resolution.

The resolution covers several related issues, including enforcement of existing anti-discrimination laws, inclusion of HIV in future federal anti-discrimination laws, opposition to mandatory discharge from the military for HIV-positive people, and making federal and state laws consistent with current medical knowledge.

Similar statements have been issued by the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, the HIV Medicine Association, the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors, and the U.S. Conference on Mayors. The first national consensus statement on HIV criminalization was released in 2012 by the Positive Justice Project, which CHLP coordinates.

To read the CHLP statement, click here.

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