

1 VERMONT MEDICAL SOCIETY RESOLUTION

2
3 Compliance with Act 48 Triggers for Publically-Financing Health Care

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5 *Adopted October 25, 2014*

6 Whereas, Governor Shumlin’s Health Care Reform Bill was signed into law May 26, 2011 as Act 48; and

7 Whereas, under Act 48, a five person Green Mountain Care Board was established to oversee cost
8 containment strategies and the Vermont Health Connect was created to help achieve universal insurance
9 coverage, anticipating the evolution of Health Connect into Green Mountain Care: the state’s publicly-
10 financed health care system for all Vermonters; and

11 Whereas, Governor Shumlin has announced that his proposal for publically-financing Green Mountain Care
12 will be presented to the Vermont General Assembly by January 15th of 2015; and

13 Whereas, under 33 V.S.A. § 1822, Green Mountain Care shall be implemented 90 days following the last to
14 occur of:

- 15 (1) Receipt of a waiver under Section 1332 of the Affordable Care Act,
- 16 (2) Enactment of a law establishing the financing for Green Mountain Care,
- 17 (3) Approval by the Green Mountain Care Board of the initial Green Mountain Care benefit package,
- 18 (4) Enactment of the appropriations for the initial Green Mountain Care benefit package,
- 19 (5) A determination by the Green Mountain Care Board, as the result of a detailed and transparent
20 analysis, that each of the following conditions or triggers will be met:
 - 21 (A) Each Vermont resident covered by Green Mountain Care will receive benefits with an
22 actuarial value of 80 percent or greater.
 - 23 (B) When implemented, Green Mountain Care will not have a negative aggregate impact on
24 Vermont’s economy. This determination shall include an analysis of the impact of
25 implementation on economic growth.
 - 26 (C) The financing for Green Mountain Care is sustainable.
 - 27 (D) Administrative expenses in Vermont’s health care system for which data are available
28 will be reduced below 2011 levels.
 - 29 (E) Cost-containment efforts will result in a reduction in the rate of growth in Vermont’s
30 per-capita health care spending without reducing access to necessary care or resulting in
31 excessive wait times for services.
 - 32 (F) Health care professionals will be reimbursed at levels sufficient to allow Vermont to
33 recruit and retain high-quality health care professionals.

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35 Whereas, Governor Shumlin’s administration has contracted with MIT health economist Jonathan Gruber
36 to assist the State in analyzing the triggers set forth in Act 48 that, when implemented, Green Mountain
37 Care will not have a negative aggregate impact on Vermont’s economy and the financing for Green
38 Mountain care will be sustainable; and

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40 Whereas, Gruber is required to provide proper documentation of his data sources, assumptions and
41 methodology relating to his analysis of the financing of Green Mountain Care; and

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43 Whereas, The VMS is one of eight organizations belonging to Vermont Partners for Health Care Reform
44 and its purpose is to provide essential information based on factual data and research-based analyses to shape
45 the smart and effective reform of Vermont’s health care system; now therefore be it

46 **RESOLVED, The Vermont Medical Society will analyze the Administration’s proposal and**
47 **assumptions for publically-financing Green Mountain Care and it will develop findings regarding the**
48 **relevant Act 48 conditions or triggers; and be it further**

1 **RESOLVED, The Vermont Medical Society will actively seek the involvement and support of other**
2 **independent organizations in developing and disseminating its finding, in order to shape the smart**
3 **and effective reform of Vermont's health care system**