

MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution 13-18

INTRODUCED BY: Medical Student Section
MedChi Public Health Committee

SUBJECT: LGBTQIA+ Inclusive Sex Education Alongside Heterosexual Sex
Education

Whereas, Many LGBTQIA students do not receive formal sex or sexuality education in schools and must seek information elsewhere;¹

Whereas, Only about 5 percent of students reported being taught positive information about L.G.B.T. people or issues in their health classes;²

Whereas, L.G.B.T. youth are five times more likely than their non-L.G.B.T. peers to search for sexuality information online;² and

Whereas, Inclusive sex education should give all students the opportunity to increase awareness, dispel myths and break down stereotypes;³ and

Whereas, Truly L.G.B.T.-inclusive sex ed weaves the issues of L.G.B.T. people throughout the curriculum without judgment or stigma and creates space for honest discussions of sexual orientation and gender identity;³ therefore be it

Resolved, That MedChi ask our AMA to update their policy on Sexuality Education, Sexual Violence Prevention, Abstinence, and Distribution of Condoms in Schools to mandate inclusive sexuality education in all schools.

As amended and adopted by the House of Delegates at its meeting on April 29, 2018.

[1] Pingel, E.S., Thomas, L., Harmell, C. et al. Creating Comprehensive, Youth Centered, Culturally Appropriate Sex Education: What Do Young Gay, Bisexual, and Questioning Men Want? *Sex Res Soc Policy*. 2013;10: 293. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13178-013-0134-5>

[2] 2015 National School Climate Survey: LGBTQ students experience discrimination but school systems can make a difference. *GLSEN*. 2015.

[3] Betz, J. Sex Ed Needs to Better Include the Needs of L.G.B.T Students. *New York Times*. 2015.

<https://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2015/04/28/whats-the-best-way-to-teach-sex-ed-today/sex-ed-needs-to-better-include-the-issues-of-lgbt-students>