

## SENIOR LIBERALS' COMMISSION Policy Committee

2017-03 (Sep 15, 2017)

## REDUCE WAIT TIMES IN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

WHEREAS: wait times for medical services and procedures vary from province to province.

**WHEREAS:** there is a shortage of doctors, especially family physicians, which varies from province to province.

**WHEREAS:** the federal government is responsible for the disbursement of funds for medical services and procedures to the provinces and territories under the Canada Health Act.

**WHEREAS:** wait times often exceed the guidelines provided for the delivery of services and procedures in a timely and effective manner. (regulation and provincial health insurance plans).

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Government of Canada insist that guidelines for the provision of medical services and procedures outlined in provincial health insurance plans and regulation be met in all cases other than unforeseen circumstances. Failure to meet the guidelines should result in financial penalties to the offending jurisdiction, consistent with the failure mechanism outlined in the Canada Health Act: section: 15.1.a.b.

**SLC National Policy Working Group on Health Care** 

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(152 words)

Reference: <u>SLC Policy Paper "Reclaiming World Class Health Care"</u> October 2017

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