

DRAFT

DRAFT AOMA Resolution 2025-XXX – 3 of 4

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SUBJECT: Proposed Origin and Meaning of the Term “Osteopathy”

SUBMITTED BY: James Keane DO

REFERRED TO:

Check one:

- Resolution is intended for Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association
  - Resolution is for consideration of the American Osteopathic Association House of Delegates
  - Resolution is intended for both the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association and for consideration of the American Osteopathic Association House of Delegates
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Whereas, during the period when Andrew Taylor (AT) Still became aware of Osteopathic philosophy, current forms of diagnosis or ways to evaluate the aggregated material structure of the body such as the stethoscope, imaging, labs and electrophysiologic tests did not exist, and

Whereas, AT Still invented Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment (OMT) as an application of Osteopathic philosophy using the physician’s hands to palpate the position of bones to evaluate the aggregated material structure of the patient’s body to diagnose a loss of structure or pathology, now, therefore be it,

Resolved, that

The term “Osteopathy” describes the use of bones (“osteo”) as positional markers to identify a loss of aggregated structure in the body (“pathology”). Combining “osteo” and “pathology” leads to the term “osteo-path.”