



## Ohio Chapter

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June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017

The Honorable Steve Huffman  
Chairman, Health Committee  
Ohio House of Representatives  
Ohio Statehouse  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Representative Huffman,

On behalf of the 2,900 members of the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, I am writing today to express our support for House Bill 231, sponsored by State Representatives Timothy Ginther and Robert Sprague.

Our state is in the midst of a crisis and everyday there seems to be another heartbreaking story of a family torn apart by opiate addiction. Many children and teenagers who struggle with addiction started down that path through prescription drugs. Often these drugs are acquired from parents and other family members who were prescribed a control substance.

House Bill 231 offers an effective approach to addressing opiate diversion by allowing pharmacists to offer a lockable or tamper evident container along with information on the risks of diversion and abuse. We know that prevention is an effective strategy and we feel this is another valuable tool in the fight against drug addiction. Many states have enacted similar legislation, and I hope the committee will follow suit and favorably report this measure.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of Ohio's children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa Wervev Arnold".

Melissa Wervev Arnold  
Chief Executive Officer  
Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics