

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



Ohio Chapter

Ohio Chapter

94-A Northwoods Blvd
Columbus, OH 43235
Phone: 614/846-6258
Fax: 614/846-4025
Email: chapter@ohioaap.org

President

Robert Murray, MD, FAAP
1629 Berkshire Rd
Columbus, OH 43221-3907
Phone: 614/325-1097
Email: murraymd@live.com

President-Elect

Michael Gittelman, MD, FAAP
Division of Emergency Medicine
3333 Burnet Ave
Cincinnati, OH 45229
Phone: 513/636-2274
Email: mike.gittelman@cchmc.org

Treasurer

Jill Fitch, MD, FAAP
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Nationwide Children's Hospital
700 Children's Dr, FB2222
Columbus, OH 43205
Phone: 614/722-3444
Email:
jill.fitch@nationwidechildrens.org

Chief Executive Officer

Melissa Werve Arnold
94-A Northwoods Blvd
Columbus, OH 43235
Phone: 614/846-6258
Fax: 614/846-4025
Email: marnold@ohioaap.org

Immediate Past-President

Andrew Garner, MD, PhD, FAAP
960 Clague Rd, Suite 1850
Westlake, OH 44145
Phone: 440/808-9228
Fax: 440/808-9234
Email:
Andrew.Garner@uhhospitals.org

Chapter Web Site

www.ohioaap.org

AAP Headquarters

141 Northwest Point Blvd
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-1098
Phone: 847/434-4000
Fax: 847/434-8000
Email: kidsdocs@aap.org
www.aap.org

February 19, 2019

The Honorable Thomas Brinkman, Jr.
Chair, House Insurance Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
Ohio Statehouse
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Chairman Brinkman, Vice Chair Antani, Ranking Member Boggs, and members of the House Insurance Committee—

On behalf of the 2,900 members of the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, I am writing today to offer support for House Bill 41, sponsored by State Representatives Steve Hambley and Paula Hicks-Hudson. This important legislation provides protections for living organ donors as it relates to insurance coverage.

As organ transplantation becomes an increasingly utilized form of treatment for diseases in adults and children, the availability of donors is critical to ensuring these treatments can continue. HB 41 will benefit children in two meaningful ways. The first is that the bill will ensure children who may need a transplant are more likely to have access to a donor by removing the potential negative impact that adverse insurance treatment would have on that donor.

The second benefit is that the bill protects children who serve as living donors from discriminatory health coverage as they grow-up. While rare, there are instances where children may donate an organ and HB 41 will ensure these young living donors can continue to have access to health coverage.

In closing, I believe that HB 41 will both encourage more individuals to become organ donors and protect those living donors from insurance discrimination. Thank you for your time and attention, and I hope you will give HB 41 favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

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

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