

# Ohio Chapter

INCORPORATED IN OHIO

## American Academy of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021

The Honorable Stephen A. Huffman  
Chairman, Health Committee  
Ohio Senate  
Ohio Statehouse  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Huffman and Members of the Senate Health Committee—

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 6, sponsored by State Senator Kristina Roegner. Enactment of this legislation would be in the best interest of Ohio pediatricians and the patients they serve.

As you know, this legislation would enter Ohio into the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. This would provide notable benefits to both Ohio pediatricians and their patients. For licensees, participation in the compact would allow physicians to practice in other compact states; this would include Michigan, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Additionally, participation in the compact may help ease the burden on physicians who serve in the military or have spouses who serve by allowing for practice during a deployment or relocation.

Entrance into the compact will provide opportunities to address workforce shortages or attract providers into underserved communities. This would provide a significant impact to patients in need. Additionally, the structure of the compact will promote public safety by ensuring information is shared efficiently within compact states.

One of the key lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic is that delivery of care through telehealth can help address inequalities and provide convenience to patients. Passage of SB 6 will help ensure that we have adequate access to providers after the pandemic has ended.

In closing, I want to thank you for your time and consideration of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

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

Melissa Wervey Arnold  
Chief Executive Officer

---

#### Ohio Chapter

94-A Northwoods Blvd, Columbus, OH 43235 • Phone: (614)846-6258 • Fax: (614)846-4025 • [chapter@ohioaap.org](mailto:chapter@ohioaap.org) • [www.ohioaap.org](http://www.ohioaap.org)

#### President

Jill Fitch, MD, FAAP  
Email: [jill.fitch@nationwidechildrens.org](mailto:jill.fitch@nationwidechildrens.org)

#### President-Elect

Christopher Peltier, MD, FAAP  
Email: [chris.peltier@cchmc.org](mailto:chris.peltier@cchmc.org)

#### Chief Executive Officer

Melissa Wervey Arnold  
Email: [marnold@ohioaap.org](mailto:marnold@ohioaap.org)

#### Immediate Past President

Michael Gittelman, MD, FAAP  
Email: [mike.gittelman@cchmc.org](mailto:mike.gittelman@cchmc.org)