2020 Legislative Support Items

The Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics represents nearly 1,200 pediatric providers working to build a foundation for a lifetime of health and well-being for all children in Washington.

Early childhood
- Support the incremental build of Help Me Grow, a coordinated access point to help families of young children with resources for their well-being. $350k this year
- Improve parent-baby attachment and early literacy by restoring funding for Reach Out and Read. $150k GFS
- Increase nurse home visiting capacity. $3m GFS

Child safety
- Limit high-capacity firearm magazines. HB 2240 (Valdez)/ SB 6077 (Kuderer)
- Ban assault weapons. HB 2241 (Peterson)/SB 6076 (Kuderer)
- Allow local pre-emption to keep firearms out of libraries and child care centers.
- Improve lead standards statewide.
- Prevent youth access to marijuana and vaping products. HB2321 (Leavitt)
- Requiring the use of personal flotation devices on smaller vessels. HB 2443 (Ryu, Davis)

High-quality comprehensive care
- Provide Medicaid funding for partial hospitalization/Intensive outpatient for kids’ mental health - $4.6m GFS
- Cover young adults on Apple Health up to age 26. HB 1697 (Macri)/SB 5814 (Nguyen) - $24m GFS
- Establish a primary care collaborative to focus on access to care, quality, and behavioral health integration.
- Increase access in the Access to Baby and Child Dentistry (ABCD) program. $200k GFS/$200k federal match
- Ensure state-only family planning dollars. $8.4m GFS
- Require commercial insurance to cover hearing aids for children who need them. HB 1811 (Kilduff)

Family financial well-being
- Fix Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). HB 2441 (Enteman) /SB 6478 (Nguyen)
- Fund the Working Families Tax Credit.
- Support reforms to Washington State’s regressive tax system.

Childhood obesity prevention
- Default to health beverages in kid meals. HB 2383 (Stonier)/6455 (Liias)
- Allocate state funds to continue SNAP incentives for produce. HB 2262 (Leavitt)/SB 6309 (Lovelett)

Health & well-being in K-12
- Support a task force on school-based health centers.
- Increase school nurses for small and rural school districts. $5.5m GFS
- Require comprehensive sex education in schools. HB 1407 (Stonier)/SB 5395 (Wilson)