



August 5, 2010

TO: Board of Directors  
District Vice Chairpersons  
Chapter Presidents and Vice Presidents  
Committee, Section, and Council Chairpersons  
Executive Staff  
AMA Pediatrician Delegates and Alternate Delegates  
AMA Section Council on Pediatrics

CC: Committee, Council, & Section Staff  
Chapter Executive Directors

FROM: O. Marion Burton, MD, Chairperson  
AMA Section Council on Pediatrics

RE: RESOLUTIONS FOR AMA INTERIM MEETING

The Interim Meeting of the American Medical Association House of Delegates will be in November in **San Diego, CA**. I am writing to you to seek any topics or issues that you would like the AMA Section Council on Pediatrics to consider. As you may know, the AMA House of Delegates formulates policy for organized medicine. Although we are only one of many delegates to the House, we are able to submit resolutions to this body for discussion and approval.

Because of the strong efforts of a number of pediatricians serving as delegates and alternate delegates on state delegations and the support of the Section Council on Pediatrics' members at Reference Committees, AAP resolutions have had more significant acceptance in the House deliberations. This ultimately results in enlarging the scope of influence to improve child health care in our nation.

Please let me hear from you ([mburton@aap.net](mailto:mburton@aap.net)) by **September 7** on any issues, topics, suggestions, or resolutions that you would like considered.

***Remember that the submitted resolution should reflect pending or existing AAP policy. Please review AAP policies under your purview that might be appropriate for submission as an AMA resolution. Please be advised that the AMA Interim Meeting is devoted to consideration of advocacy or legislative resolutions only. All Resolutions for the Interim session will be screened by a House Committee to ensure that they are related to advocacy. Those that are not will be deferred for consideration during the Annual meeting the following June.***

When drafting your resolutions, please follow the procedures outlined in the attached "Guidelines for Submission of Resolutions." Resolutions will be reviewed by AAP leadership prior to submission to the AMA.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact either Jan Page ([jpage@aap.org](mailto:jpage@aap.org)) at the Central Office or me. Thank you for your consideration.

O. Marion Burton, MD, FAAP  
Chairperson, AMA Section Council on Pediatrics  
55 Medical Park  
Columbia, SC 29203  
803-255-3400  
[mburton@aap.net](mailto:mburton@aap.net)

OMB/jkp

141 Northwest Point Blvd  
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-1098  
Phone: 847/434-4000  
Fax: 847/434-8000  
E-mail: [kidsdocs@aap.org](mailto:kidsdocs@aap.org)  
[www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)

#### Executive Committee

##### President

Judith S. Palfrey, MD, FAAP

##### President-Elect

O. Marion Burton, MD, FAAP

##### Immediate Past President

David T. Tayloe, Jr, MD, FAAP

##### Executive Director/CEO

Errol R. Alden, MD, FAAP

#### Board of Directors

##### District I

Edward N. Bailey, MD, FAAP  
Salem, MA

##### District II

Henry A. Schaeffer, MD, FAAP  
Brooklyn, NY

##### District III

Sandra Gibson Hassink, MD, FAAP  
Wilmington, DE

##### District IV

Francis E. Rushton, Jr, MD, FAAP  
Beaufort, SC

##### District V

Marilyn J. Bull MD, FAAP  
Indianapolis, IN

##### District VI

Michael V. Severson, MD, FAAP  
Brainerd, MN

##### District VII

Kenneth E. Matthews, MD, FAAP  
College Station, TX

##### District VIII

Mary P. Brown, MD, FAAP  
Bend, OR

##### District IX

Myles B. Abbott, MD, FAAP  
Berkeley, CA

##### District X

John S. Curran, MD, FAAP  
Tampa, FL

## ***GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTIONS***

### ***FOR THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION***

#### ***HOUSE OF DELEGATES***

**Purpose.** The purpose of submitting resolutions from the American Academy of Pediatrics to the AMA House of Delegates is to elicit AMA support for the AAP initiatives.

**Origin of Resolutions.** Suggested resolutions may originate or be solicited from:

- AAP Board of Directors
- AAP Chapters, Committees, Councils, Sections
- District meetings
- Task forces
- AMA Section Council on Pediatrics
- Pediatric Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the AMA

Resolution suggestions are sent directly to the Chairperson, AMA Section Council on Pediatrics.

**Process.** The review and referral process is as follows:

- Suggestions will be sent first to the Chairperson, AMA Section Council on Pediatrics, and subsequently to staff for review, referral, and comment by appropriate committee, council, section or task force chairpersons, including the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, as appropriate.
- Staff will research the AMA Policy Compendium to determine if there have been previous policies on the topics suggested.
- Once comments and information are received by the Chairperson, Pediatric Section Council, and reviewed by the AAP Delegation, necessary revisions are made.
- Resolutions will then be submitted to the AAP Executive Committee for approval.
- Approved resolutions will then be forwarded to the AMA within the time frame established by the AMA.
- It is the responsibility of the Section Council on Pediatrics to submit (or defer) the approved resolutions to the AMA House of Delegates.
- A Section Council member will be designated by the chairperson to speak before the Reference Committee in support of the resolution.

The Section Council Chairperson will acknowledge resolution suggestions as follows:

- Notification will be sent acknowledging suggestions for resolutions
- Notification will be sent stating whether or not a suggested resolution was approved for submission to the AMA, and if not, the reasons for that decision.
- Notification will be sent to those whose resolutions are submitted, informing them of the action of the House of Delegates.

**Content.** AAP-approved AMA resolutions must:

- Be substantive
- Reflect an important AAP initiative
- Reflect an initiative that requires more than pediatric input and support

- Be realistic and attainable.
- All resolutions should cite pertinent, existing AMA policy as set out in the AMA Policy Compendium and should clearly indicate if the resolution intends to *create new, modify existing, or rescind existing* policy.
- All resolutions should reflect ***pending or existing*** AAP policy.
- Resolutions must be of a *policy* nature or be a *directive* to take action or to study an issue.

**Format.**

- Since the AMA adopts only the resolved portion of the resolution, it is essential that each resolution contain a resolved that states a specific intent and that can stand alone.
- Each resolution must have a prefacing statement explaining the "whereas" rationale for the resolution.