

Nevada Chapter

OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

NevadaAAP.org

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Saturday, May 31, 2025

Senator Julie Pazina

Chair, Senate Commerce and Labor

Nevada Legislature

via SenCL@sen.state.nv.us

RE: Support for AB388

Dear Chair Pazina,

On behalf of the pediatrician members of the Nevada Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, I write in support for AB388.

In Nevada, families are often forced to make difficult choices between a paycheck and taking time to care for a new baby or sick family member. That is why the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) supports paid family and medical leave—including at least 12 weeks of leave for parents of newborn infants or newly adopted children—for all working adults.

In our policy statement, "[Paid Family and Medical Leave](#)," we recognize the challenges parents face caring for their children and themselves. Current options force far too many people back to work during a key time to strengthen parent-child bonds and healthy routines like breastfeeding. It also makes burdens shouldered by low-income parents harder to bear and contributes to unequal treatment of women, families of color, ethnic minorities, and many other groups.

Alongside the families they care for, pediatricians and their team of providers themselves are struggling with balancing the demands of their work with their and their family's needs. While some health care employers are gaining a deeper understanding that physicians are at high risk for burnout due to workload, long work hours, and cognitive and emotional demands, too many are not. Physician burnout is a recognized workplace hazard and can also take a toll on quality of patient care and productivity.

Studies from across the globe link paid family and medical leave to many health outcomes. Here are just a few examples:

- Lower rates of [premature birth](#) and low birth weight and fewer child hospital admissions
- More parents choosing to [breastfeed](#) (and being able to breastfeed longer) with positive health effects on the breastfed infant and their breastfeeding mother
- Lower death rates among newborns, infants, and children
- Higher [vaccination](#) rates, protecting kids from serious health risks
- For parents, lower rehospitalization rates following delivery, decreased [postpartum depression](#) rates and better spousal relationships—all of which support a child's healthy physical and [mental development](#).
- Parents of children with special health needs say paid family leave is crucial for their care and development.

Thank you for considering this important legislation for patients and for the doctors that serve them,

Lee McAllister

Executive Director

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