

Dear Human Services Committee,

I am a pediatrician who works in New Haven, CT and Chair of the Advocacy Committee for the CT Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. These are my personal views and do not reflect those of my employer.

I am writing to **support H.B. No. 6885**

The number of pediatric subspecialists who accept Medicaid in CT is not enough to provide timely and accessible medical care. When pediatric medical practices are asked why Medicaid patients are limited, the overwhelming reason given is the rates are so low as to make it impossible to sustain a practice with more Medicaid patients. This results in a two-tier system with decreased access to both preventative and acute medical care for children on Medicaid. This is a health equity issue as Black and Brown children are more likely to utilize Medicaid.

Therefore, it is critical that CT elected officials support H.B. No. 6885 in order to ensure the health and wellbeing of CT children and families.

Thank you for considering my testimony. Please reach out with questions.

Sincerely,

Molly Markowitz, MD FAAP

Chair, Advocacy Committee

CT American Academy of Pediatrics Chapter

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