

Testimony IN SUPPORT of HB 5368

Dear Human Services Community,

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 in **support** of HB 5368.

Research from New Haven, CT in 2013 showed that 30% of families reported needing help paying for diapers. This is consistent with more recent national data from 2017 with 36% indicating diaper need. Further, research has shown that diaper need is associated with medical conditions such as diaper dermatitis and urinary tract infections. The financial challenges associated with diaper use is stressful for families and can lead to missed work. Further, diaper need has been to be associated with maternal depression.

Therefore, passing of HB 5368 would greatly benefit CT's 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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