



**Association of
American Medical Colleges**
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aamc.org

September 5, 2018

The Honorable Charles Grassley
135 Hart Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Michael Bennett
548 Russell Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joe Barton
2107 Rayburn House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kathy Castor
2052 Rayburn House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Grassley and Bennett and Representatives Barton and Castor:

On behalf of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), I am writing to express support for The Advancing Care for Exceptional Kids Act of 2017 (ACE Kids Act, S. 428, H.R. 3325). Thank you for your leadership in introducing this bipartisan legislation to improve health care for children with complex medical conditions on Medicaid.

The AAMC is a not-for-profit association dedicated to transforming health care through innovative medical education, cutting-edge patient care, and groundbreaking medical research. Its members are all 151 accredited U.S. medical schools; nearly 400 major teaching hospitals and health systems, including 51 Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers; and more than 80 academic societies. Through these institutions and organizations, the AAMC serves the leaders of America's medical schools and teaching hospitals and their more than 173,000 full-time faculty members, 89,000 medical students, 129,000 resident physicians, and more than 60,000 graduate students and postdoctoral researchers in the biomedical sciences.

The ACE Kids Act is an important piece of legislation that creates a patient-centered delivery system for a unique population of children to help ensure access to care across state lines and reduce the burden on these children's families. Under this legislation, specially-designed health homes created for children with complex medical conditions would employ national quality standards and coordinate care, which are both essential to improving quality of care and reducing costs.

The ACE Kids Act, which is voluntary for states, families, and providers, would create savings to Medicaid by reducing hospitalizations and emergency room visits while providing essential services and supports for these children. As such, the AAMC is happy to support this legislation.

Thank you for your leadership in introducing this critical legislation – we look forward to working with you to advance this bill this year. If you have any questions, please contact Len Marquez, AAMC Senior Director of Government Relations, at lmarquez@aamc.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Fisher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Karen Fisher, JD
Chief Public Policy Officer