

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



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July 30, 2018

The Honorable Joe Barton
2107 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kathy Castor
2052 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Barton and Congresswoman Castor:

On behalf of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), a non-profit professional organization of 67,000 primary care pediatricians, pediatric medical sub-specialists, and pediatric surgical specialists dedicated to the health, safety and well-being of infants, children, adolescents, and young adults, I write to share our support for H.R. 3325, the Advancing Care for Exceptional (ACE) Kids Act.

This legislation seeks to address existing challenges facing children with complex medical conditions by improving the coordination of care across multiple providers and services. Additionally, the legislation would incentivize states to expand access to patient-centered, pediatric-focused coordinated care models tailored for children with medical complexity, which can lead to improved quality of care for this population.

The ACE Kids Act directs the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to evaluate and promulgate guidance on best practices for ensuring that children with complex medical conditions receive prompt care from out-of-state providers, a challenge that many pediatricians, pediatric sub-specialists and pediatric surgical specialists face when providing care to this population. The legislation also includes a focus on robust data collection, quality improvement and coordination between the child's medical home and the specialty care that is often outside the child's home community.

Children with medical complexity, as do all children, deserve access to the highest quality care in a medical home. We thank you for your leadership in introducing this critical legislation. If you have any questions, please contact Marielle Kress in our Washington, D.C. office at 202/347-8600 or mkress@aap.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colleen A Kraft".

Colleen A. Kraft, MD, MBA, FAAP
President