



## Ohio Chapter

December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019

The Honorable Scott Lipps  
Chairman, Health Committee  
Ohio House of Representatives  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Lipps and Members of the House Health Committee—

On behalf of the 2,900 members of the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, I am writing today to express our support for House Bill 329, sponsored by State Representatives Hillyer and Lighbody.

It has been well established that exposure to ultraviolet radiation from tanning increases an individual's risk of skin cancer. Despite numerous health warnings, studies have shown that approximately 24% of teenagers have visited a tanning facility at least once.

In a 2011 policy statement, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommended that teenagers avoid using tanning beds due to the significant dangers posed by UV radiation exposure. Nationally, AAP has supported legislation to prohibit tanning bed use by teenagers. Passage of HB 329 would bring Ohio in line with 19 states that prohibit the use of tanning beds by teenagers.

There are safe alternatives to tanning as well as moderated, natural sunlight exposure that are far better for teenagers. HB 329 is common sense and in the best interest of Ohio teens.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to child health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa Wervey Arnold".

Melissa Wervey Arnold  
Chief Executive Officer  
Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

### Ohio Chapter

94-A Northwoods Blvd  
Columbus, OH 43235  
Phone: (614)846-6258  
Fax: (614)846-4025  
Email: [chapter@ohioaap.org](mailto:chapter@ohioaap.org)  
Website: [www.ohioaap.org](http://www.ohioaap.org)

### President

Michael Gittelman, MD, FAAP  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital  
Medical Center  
3333 Burnet Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45229  
Phone: (513)636-2274  
Email: [mike.gittelman@cchmc.org](mailto:mike.gittelman@cchmc.org)

### President-Elect

Jill Fitch, MD, FAAP  
Nationwide Children's Hospital  
700 Children's Dr, FB2222  
Columbus, OH 43205  
Phone: (614)722-3444  
Email: [jill.fitch@nationwidechildrens.org](mailto:jill.fitch@nationwidechildrens.org)

### Treasurer

Chris Peltier, MD, FAAP  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital  
Medical Center  
3333 Burnet Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45229  
Phone: (513)752-3650  
Email: [chris.peltier@cchmc.org](mailto:chris.peltier@cchmc.org)

### Chief Executive Officer

Melissa Wervey Arnold  
94-A Northwoods Blvd  
Columbus, OH 43235  
Phone: (614)846-6258  
Fax: (614)846-4025  
Email: [marnold@ohioaap.org](mailto:marnold@ohioaap.org)

### Immediate Past-President

Robert Murray, MD, FAAP  
1629 Berkshire Rd  
Columbus, OH 43221-3907  
Phone: (614)325-1097  
Email: [murraymd@live.com](mailto:murraymd@live.com)

### AAP Headquarters

141 Northwest Point Blvd  
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-1098  
Phone: (847)434-4000  
Fax: (847)434-8000  
Email: [kidsdocs@aap.org](mailto:kidsdocs@aap.org)  
Website: [www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)