

Newsletter / ALF 2023

By John Ichiro Takayama, MD, MPH, FAAP

Now is the Time to Submit a LC Resolution

What's a resolution?

Every year, chapter members can submit a “resolution” to the Academy (national AAP) to advocate for change - to improve the health and well-being of children, youth and families; to support pediatricians; and to make AAP a better organization. LC (Leadership Conference) resolutions are reviewed, approved and prioritized by leaders of chapters, sections, councils and committees, at the annual Leadership Conference which will take place in August 2023.

Who can write a resolution?

Anyone who is a chapter member can submit a resolution. Resolutions should address the Academy’s mission, core values or strategic plan (<https://services.aap.org/en/about-the-aap/strategic-plan/>); and they tend to ask the Academy to take action on a specific issue not already addressed or to establish a new program or activity. The following is the list of titles of 2022 LC resolutions that district IX members submitted in the spring 2022 and were approved.

- Voting as a Key Metric in the Analysis of Social Determinants of Health
- Combatting Censorship: Promoting Open Access to Books and Information for Children and Adolescents
- Support Orphaned and Vulnerable Children and Adolescents of the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Improving Mental Health Care for Children and Adolescents of Caregivers with Substance Use Disorder
- Improve the Ability of Small Independent Pediatric Practices to Recruit High Quality Pediatricians to the 2022 Leadership Conference.
- Transparency of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Outcomes for Medical School Pediatric Departments
- Advocating for Down Syndrome as a Genetic Condition, not a Birth Defect
- Supporting Safe Water on American Indian Alaska Native Lands

How to write a resolution

LC resolutions use a specific format that begins with “whereas” and ends with “resolved.” “Whereas” is where one lists the reasons why the Academy should consider the resolution; and “resolved” is where one specifies what the Academy should do or change. Resolutions often include key action verbs such as advocate, collaborate and educate. Before drafting a resolution, it’s helpful to review past resolutions, to make sure that a recent resolution did not ask the Academy to do something similar.

14SA. Improving Healthcare Visit Equity for Patients with Limited English Proficiency

Authors: Katherine Douglas, MD, Jennifer Ross, MD, FAAP (Massachusetts)

Whereas, patients with limited English proficiency experience increased risk of adverse outcomes; and

Whereas, time for visits with interpreters are found to be longer at baseline; and

Whereas primary care visits are an essential time to evaluate overall child health and address concerns, therefore be it

Resolved, that Academy recognize the increased costs of providing quality care for patients with limited English proficiency, and be it further

Resolved, that the Academy advocate for financial support for pediatricians to provide increased access to high-quality interpretation services

When's the deadline?

The deadline is Saturday, April 1, 2023! This is an excellent time to write resolutions; if you need any help with crafting or reviewing a possible resolution, please let your chapter leadership or me know.

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Links and References

<https://collaborate.aap.org/alf/Pages/home.aspx>
https://collaborate.aap.org/alf/Misc/alf_guidelines_submitting_resolution.pdf