



Montana Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics

Montana Chapter

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- **WHEREAS:** The Centers for Disease Control states that “Climate change threatens human health and well-being in many ways, including impacts from increased extreme weather events, wildfire, decreased air quality, and illnesses transmitted by food, water, and diseases carriers such as mosquitoes and ticks.”
- **WHEREAS:** According to the 2009 Lancet Commission, “Climate change is the biggest global health threat of the 21st century”, and in 2015 said “Tackling climate change could be the greatest global health opportunity of the 21st century”, and in 2017 they called for carbon pricing.
- **WHEREAS:** The National AAP addresses Global Climate Change and Children’s Health and calls for education, collaboration, and advocacy.
- **WHEREAS:** Climate Change is expected to worsen our Montana air quality according to the 2017 Montana Climate Assessment. Higher atmospheric temperatures directly increase ozone concentrations. Smoke from more frequent forest fires will likely elevate fine particulate matter concentrations. Drought affects our food production. Our youngest and most vulnerable residents will bear the brunt of worsening air quality, affection the breathing of thousands of children with asthmas. Rising healthcare costs due to these effects will be borne by all of us.

RESOLVED: The Montana Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics, recognizes that climate change threatens the health and well-being of the patients we serve. Therefore, we:

- 1) support efforts to educate our patients and the medical community regarding the potential adverse health effects of global climate change.
- 2) support our health care institutions to review and improve their carbon footprint and that of their supply chain, and also encourage them to prepare for climate impacts.
- 3) support efforts to communicate with our local, state, and national legislators, and request that they take urgent action to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change, including but not limited to carbon pricing.

links: <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/136/5/e1468>
<http://www.lancetcountdown.org/the-report/>
<http://www.montanaclimate.org/chapter/title-page>

