



AMCHP Endorses President's Call for Stronger Maternity Leave and Family Friendly Policies

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Contact: Brent Ewig (202) 266-3041

Jan. 21, 2015, Washington, DC – Today, the Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs (AMCHP) enthusiastically endorsed the actions President Obama highlighted in his State of the Union address last night to ensure federal employees have access to at least six weeks of paid parental leave when a new child arrives, along with a proposal that Congress offer six weeks of paid administrative leave as well.

AMCHP recently amended its own policies to offer employees six weeks of paid parental leave – among other benefits. We strongly believe the leadership shown by the president can help strengthen both families and businesses while leading to improved health and well-being for new moms and babies.

“Studies show that adequate maternity leave can improve the health of newborns, decrease depression among new moms, and increase breastfeeding rates – all while reducing financial strain on families and leading to better retention rates for employers,” said Lori Tremmel Freeman, chief executive officer of AMCHP.

“This is a win-win proposition, and we thank the president for galvanizing this important national dialogue on steps we can take to strengthen families.”

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AMCHP is the national membership association of state maternal and child health leaders. As an advocate, resource and partner, AMCHP supports state MCH programs and provides national leadership on issues affecting women, children and families. We envision a society where healthy children and health families live in healthy communities. For more information, visit amchp.org or connect with AMCHP on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

