



March 29, 2017

AMWA Stands with AAP on Executive Order Halting Clean Power Plan

The American Medical Women's Association stands with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) in opposing the Executive Order issued on March 28, 2017 that rolls back protections enacted by the Clean Power Act of 2015. The health of our citizens depends on these protections, particularly the very young and the elderly, who are more vulnerable to environmental changes that increase the risk of harmful pollutants in our air. AMWA joins AAP in imploring President Trump and his administration to support policies that ensure a safe and clean environment across this country.

"The American Academy of Pediatrics opposes the Executive Order issued today that rolls back critical protections for children's health. The Order would stop all work to defend the Clean Power Plan, an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rule limiting carbon emissions from existing fossil fuel-fired power plants. These power plants generate approximately one-third of all U.S. greenhouse gas pollution, a leading contributor to climate change. Without this rule in place, our children, who are uniquely vulnerable to changes in the environment, will disproportionately bear the burden of dirty air, increased incidence of vector-borne illnesses, increased natural disasters, heat-induced illness and death.

"According to the World Health Organization, more than 80% of the current health burden resulting from the changing climate occurs in children younger than five years old. Children breathe faster than adults, spend more time outside and have lungs that are still developing, meaning any environmental changes will have a more significant impact. For children who suffer from asthma, poor air quality can turn outdoor activity into a real risk to their health.

"As pediatricians, we know it is impossible to separate the status of our environment from its impact on our patients' health. The Clean Power Plan took significant steps forward for children by addressing the public health issue of climate change and by helping to improve air quality. Clean air should not be a luxury, and it should not be determined by ZIP code. We urge President Trump and his administration to support policies that ensure a safe environment for children and families across the country, rather than those that undo the gains we've made."

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Templeton, MD".

Kimberly Templeton, MD
AMWA President 2016-2017

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Harrison, MD".

Suzanne Harrison, MD
AMWA President 2017-2018