

SENATE RESOLUTION 45

(By Senators Takubo and Deeds)

[Introduced February 21, 2026]

1 Designating February 23, 2026, as West Virginia American Academy of Pediatrics Child Health
2 Advocacy Day at the Legislature.

3 Whereas, The West Virginia American Academy of Pediatrics is a membership
4 organization of 267 pediatric providers, residents, and affiliates who are dedicated to improving
5 the health and lives of children and adolescents living in West Virginia. Formed in 1957, the
6 Chapter serves as a resource for its members, and a voice for children who may not otherwise be
7 heard; and

8 Whereas, The mission of the West Virginia American Academy of Pediatrics is to attain the
9 optimal health and well-being of all infants, children, adolescents, and young adults by uniting and
10 educating pediatricians, and facilitating effective partnerships between pediatricians, other child
11 experts, and advocates; and

12 Whereas, Pediatricians play a critical role in improving the health of our young citizens; and

13 Whereas, The prevention of major threats to children's health including the management of
14 chronic diseases, obesity, injury, communicable diseases, and other child health problems cannot
15 be managed solely in the pediatric office; and

16 Whereas, The 2026 legislative priorities of the West Virginia Chapter of the American
17 Academy of Pediatrics are to maintain strong immunization laws, access to care; promoting
18 tobacco cessation; obesity prevention and treatment; addressing ACEs and toxic stress; prioritize
19 mental and behavioral health; addressing the substance use epidemic and its impact on children;
20 and firearm injury prevention; and

1 Whereas, The West Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics will continue
2 to strive to put kids' health first and be a voice for vulnerable children and families in West Virginia;
3 therefore, be it

4 *Resolved by the Senate:*

5 That the Senate hereby designates February 23, 2026, as West Virginia American
6 Academy of Pediatrics Child Health Advocacy Day at the Legislature; and, be it

7 *Further Resolved,* That the Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to
8 the West Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.