

# American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



NYSAAP, District II, Chapters 1, 2 & 3

## Memo in Support

### **Allow the provision of health services in schools via telehealth by a licensed provider S8976/A7602**

The New York State American Academy of Pediatrics, District II, comprised of over 4,000 pediatricians, is dedicated to advancing policies that support the health and well-being of all children.

NYS widely supports the use of school-based health services through licensed school-based health centers in schools. These settings offer a critical access point to support child health and well-being, providing access to both preventive care, vaccinations, support in managing chronic conditions and more. But not all schools have the ability to support a licensed space due to space constraints, student volume and/or provider availability.

Supporting access to health services via telehealth has become an integral part of how we access health services in our communities. This access point must be expanded to allow students access to health services in schools via telehealth. Telehealth can be an important extension of the services available to support children's health and wellbeing. This includes offering mental health services and triage of other medical conditions and needs.

Expanding telehealth in schools is a natural extension of the pediatric office, allowing children to get the care they need where they spend most of their time, in the schools. This support the ability for children and youth to remain in school, rather than be taken out for an appoint, supports parents and care givers who no longer need to miss work, and allows children to get the support they need to remain in school and fully participate in the school environment.

**The NYS American Academy of Pediatrics supports the S8976/A7602 which would allow students to access telehealth services in schools, which will help students get timely high-quality care which allows them to stay in school.**

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