

OREGON ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

CONGRESS OF THE MEMBERS

76th ANNUAL MEETING

April 15, 2023

Resolution #3

Introduced by: Rishi Seshadri, Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine Student

Subject: Supporting Legislation to Alleviate the Burden of Diaper Need for Needy Families with Young Children

- 1 WHEREAS, insufficient access to clean, appropriately-sized diapers can have serious consequences for
2 infants and caregivers, including risk of infection and skin breakdown, and financial burdens for needy
3 families¹, and
- 4 WHEREAS, diaper access has a significant impact on both children and parents, including improved
5 mental health and sleep quality², and
- 6 WHEREAS, funds from established programs for low-income families including Supplemental Nutrition
7 Assistance Program (SNAP) and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program cannot be used to buy
8 diapers, while Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is inadequate for this purpose, and
- 9 WHEREAS, existing non-profit diaper banks are insufficient to meet the current diaper needs of low-
10 income families³, and
- 11 WHEREAS, one in three families in the United States struggles to afford clean diapers⁴, THEREFORE BE IT
- 12 RESOLVED that the Oregon Academy of Family Physicians (OAFP) supports legislation to alleviate the
13 burden of diaper need for needy families with young children, and BE IT FURTHER
- 14 RESOLVED, that the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) supports legislation to alleviate the
15 burden of diaper need for needy families with young children

1. Smith, M. V., Kruse, A., Weir, A., & Goldblum, J. (2013). Diaper need and its impact on child health. *Pediatrics*, 132(2), 253-259.
2. Shaffer, E., Porter, S., Condon, E., Zha, P., & Caldwell, B. A. (2022). Associations between diaper need and child sleep in under-resourced families. *Journal of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics*, 43(7), 402-408.
3. Massengale, K. E., Comer, L. H., Austin, A. E., & Goldblum, J. S. (2020). Diaper need met among low-income US children younger than 4 years in 2016. *American Journal of Public Health*, 110(1), 106-108.
4. Sobowale, K., Clayton, A., & Smith, M. V. (2021). Diaper need is associated with pediatric care use: an analysis of a nationally representative sample of parents of young children. *The Journal of pediatrics*, 230, 146-151.