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## Washington Update

February 10, 2014

### IN THIS UPDATE:

**NIH Holds National Children's Study Federal Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Two Additions to House Appropriations Subcommittee**

**Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) to Retire**

**PPC Sessions at PAS 2014**

**Save the Date: Legislative Conference 2014**

### NIH Holds National Children's Study Federal Advisory Committee Meeting

On Jan. 29, the National Children's Study Federal Advisory Committee held a public meeting to discuss the study's design and future implementation plan, and to solicit public comment on several areas of the study with emphasis on the first and second pregnancy visits. These pregnancy visits allow researchers to examine prenatal care methods and environmental factors that affect future development. The public meetings of the Federal Advisory Committee are held quarterly, with the next meeting occurring on June 25, 2014 at the NIH campus. More information on the NCS can be found [here](#).

### Two Additions to House Appropriations Subcommittee

On Jan. 29, Chairman Hal Rogers (R-Ky.) announced new members of the majority roster for the House Appropriations Committee for the second session of the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress. The additions include two new

members of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies: Reps. Martha Roby (R-Ala.) and Chris Stewart (R-Utah). The other members of the subcommittee's majority roster include Chairman Jack Kingston (R-Ga.), Vice Chairman Steve Womack (R-Ark.), Chuck Fleischmann (R-Tenn.), David Joyce (R-Ohio), and Andy Harris (R-Md.). The subcommittee, also known as Labor-HHS, has jurisdiction over appropriations for most Department of Health and Human Services programs including National Institutes of Health research funding. The subcommittee's minority roster saw no new changes.

## **Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) to Retire**

On Jan. 30, Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) announced that he will not seek reelection to the House of Representatives in 2014. Waxman, a representative from California's 33<sup>rd</sup> district, is currently the ranking member of the powerful House Energy and Commerce Committee, which oversees biomedical research and development, the Department of Health and Human Services, and public health insurance including Medicare and Medicaid.

Rep. Waxman, first elected to Congress in 1974, is known for several significant legislative achievements including the creation of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and the Ryan White CARE Act, which provides medical services for patients with HIV and AIDS. Rep. Waxman also championed the Affordable Care Act, and helped push the bill through a contentious vote in the House of Representatives. Several experienced legislators have announced their intentions to run for Rep. Waxman's position on the committee, including Rep. Frank Pallone (D-N.J.), who currently serves as Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health, and Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-Calif.).

## **PPC Sessions at PAS 2014**

There will be two PPC-led sessions at PAS held May 3 – May 6 in Vancouver, British Columbia. The PPC Plenary Session on state implementation of the Affordable Care Act will take place from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. on May 5. The PPC Legislative Breakfast on the future of pediatric research funding will be held on May 5 from 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

## **Save the Date: Legislative Conference 2014**

Mark your calendar! The AAP's 2014 Legislative Conference will be held June 15, 2014 – June 17, 2014, in Washington, DC. Join pediatricians from across the country and learn how you can become a strong advocate for the children you care for. Please visit [www.aap.org/legcon](http://www.aap.org/legcon) for more information about the conference, including a brochure, scholarships, and how to register.