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**Reply to
Department of Federal Affairs**

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VIA EMAIL/FAX

February 11, 2009

Dear Conferee:

As the House and Senate conference committee considers the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* (ARRA) (H.R. 1) the American Academy of Pediatrics, a non-profit professional organization of 60,000 primary care pediatricians, pediatric medical sub-specialists, and pediatric surgical specialists dedicated to the health, safety, and well-being of infants, children, adolescents, and young adults, urge you to include the following critical provisions in the final conference agreement: Health Information Technology (Health IT), Federal Medical Assistance Percentages (FMAP) and at least \$3 billion for public health, prevention and wellness, research and training. These are all vital to the health and well being of all children and adolescents.

The Academy strongly believes that these robust investments in public health and prevention, combined with an adequate increase in FMAP and sufficient funding to implement Health IT will yield improvements to the health and well-being of all children and adolescents and for our economy. We urge that you support these important provisions in the final version of H.R.1, to help stimulate the economy by improving the health of all Americans including our most vulnerable - children and adolescents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David T. Tayloe, Jr.".

David T. Tayloe, Jr., FAAP
President

cc:

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
The Honorable Harry Reid
The Honorable Daniel Inouye
The Honorable Max Baucus
The Honorable Thad Cochran
The Honorable Charles Grassley
The Honorable Tom Harkin
The Honorable Arlen Specter
The Honorable David Obey
The Honorable Charles Rangel
The Honorable Henry Waxman
The Honorable Jerry Lewis
The Honorable Dave Camp