

SB 55, AN ACT EXPANDING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL AND THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE

The CT Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics supports fully the addition of a child psychiatrist for the Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee.

We appreciate that the CT General Assembly has made note that children and adolescents are not just small sized adults. They have special needs, requirements, metabolisms. In pediatrics we know that and have made every effort to address those special needs.

Mental health care has become a very important part of taking care of children in our practices. Many pediatricians do prescribe psychotropic medications but we rely on our colleagues, the child and adolescent psychiatrists to give us the support and provide us with assistance with certain types of psychotropic medications.

We believe it is in the best interest of the children, as well as to the other experts on the committee to have someone with the wealth of experience that a child and adolescent psychiatrist would have to serve on this committee.