



## All Kids Covered Legislative Protocols

All Kids Covered (AKC) no longer has the funding to support a single contract lobbyist to work on behalf of the coalition during the legislative session. Therefore, lobbying responsibilities are shared among the lobbyists contracted and/or employed by the individual AKC Leadership Team organizations. The AKC Leadership Team is made up of Colorado Covering Kids and Families (CKF), Colorado Children's Campaign (CCC), and Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved (CCMU). This memo describes the levels of support for legislative positions and the decision-making protocols for AKC. How and when AKC utilizes these protocols will be governed by the policy priorities document developed each year prior to the legislative session in partnership with key AKC coalition members.

### Levels of Support for Legislative Positions

**Actively Support:** Dedicate all staff, lobbying, and grassroots resources towards passage, including:

- Reviewing the bill and all amendments in detail
- Developing fact sheets/position papers
- Arranging for testimony
- Working with sponsors, other legislators, and drafters on desired amendments
- Coordinating with other supporting groups
- Counting votes and lobbying for committee and floor passage
- Sending action alerts to coalition members requesting legislator contacts

**Support:** Review the bill and all amendments. Agree to allow AKC's name to be used in support of the bill. May include writing letters to legislators of a committee indicating our support. No additional lobbying or staff resources to be utilized.

**Actively Monitor:** Review bill in detail. Monitor progress closely as bill moves through committees, including reviewing proposed and adopted amendments. May include working on amendments to bring the bill into one of the support categories above.

**Monitor:** Report on fate of bill to coalition members at end of session. No signing onto any fact sheets or letters, or any lobbying effort.

**Oppose:** Review the bill and all amendments. Agree to allow AKC's name to be used in opposition of the bill. May include writing letters to legislators of a committee indicating our opposition. No additional lobbying or staff resources to be utilized.

**Actively Oppose:** Dedicate all staff, lobbying, and grassroots resources towards defeating the bill, including:

- Reviewing the bill and all amendments in detail
- Developing fact sheets/position papers
- Arranging for testimony
- Working with sponsors, other legislators, and drafters on desired amendments
- Coordinating with other groups who are in opposition



- Counting votes and lobbying for committee and floor defeat
- Sending action alerts to coalition members requesting legislator contacts

May include working on amendments to bring the bill into one of the monitor or support categories above.

### **Decision-Making Process**

#### **Primary Process**

If there is adequate time, the issue will be discussed at a monthly AKC coalition meeting where those present will make a decision. If a decision must be made before the next monthly meeting and time allows, an email will be sent to all coalition members seeking their input on a question of strategy or a proposed amendment. Such a communication would recommend a position of the coalition and request that coalition members who do not agree with the position to respond within a specified timeframe with their concerns. If a coalition member does not reply, the AKC Leadership Team will assume they do not have concerns.

#### **Urgent Process**

If there is not adequate time for the Primary Process, a smaller group will be consulted to make the decision for the coalition. The AKC Leadership Team (CCMU, CCC, and CKF) and their individual organizations' lobbyists, along with actively engaged AKC coalition members who are working on or impacted by the policy at issue, will comprise this smaller group. Depending on the time frame, email or phone communication will be used.

#### **Reporting Requirements**

Each registered lobbyist contracted and/or employed by the individual AKC Leadership Team organizations is responsible for being in compliance with the reporting requirements according to the state lobbying laws.