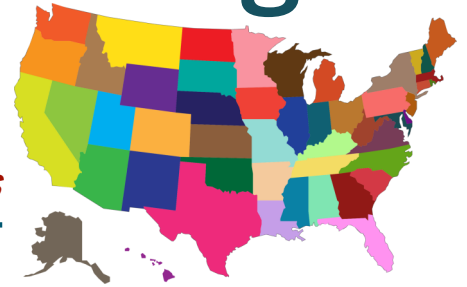


# Is your governor speaking UP for children?

*A look at 2018 state of the state and inaugural addresses*



State of the state and inaugural addresses offer a quick look at governors' top line priorities and are a great way for you to:

[identify shared interests](#) | [make a connection](#) | [offer your chapter's expertise](#)

We've been listening in to what governors are saying and are keeping track of some things you'll want to know.

## Here's how you can help.

- Check out the summary of your governor's address(es). Are there areas of mutual interest?
- Want more detail? Follow the links for a closer look.
- Contact your governor and let him/her know:
  - ☑ That your chapter represents pediatricians who advocate for children.
  - ☑ That you share interest in issues he/she mentioned.
  - ☑ That you'd like to meet and work together on common goals.
- Let us know what you need to support your efforts. We're here to help!

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



State Advocacy | [stgov@aap.org](mailto:stgov@aap.org) | [www.aap.org/stateadvocacy](http://www.aap.org/stateadvocacy)

[Click on the governor's name for contact information] [Click on Inaugural Address or State of the State Address for the text of the speech]

AL

**Governor Kay Ivey | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Early Childhood Education (PreK)
- “Effective education requires a strong foundation in a child’s early years...Research shows us that students who participate in Alabama’s First Class Pre-K program are more likely, than other students, to be proficient in reading and math at every grade level.”

AK

**Governor Bill Walker | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Costs, Medicaid Expansion) | Adoption and Foster Care | Environmental Health | Substance Abuse (Opioids)
- “Many lives have been saved or drastically improved and Medicaid expansion has brought over 500 million additional federal dollars and hundreds of jobs into our economy during a time of recession, all at minimal cost to the state.”

AZ

**Governor Doug Ducey | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (CHIP) | Adoption and Foster Care | Human Trafficking | Poverty (Food Insecurity) | Substance Abuse (Opioids)
- “But because of the committed service of our state’s child safety workers, non-profit organizations and the faith-based community, combined with legislative support – the Casey Family Programs just named Arizona the best in the country for its foster care reduction.”

AR

**Governor Asa Hutchinson | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Children with Special Health Care Needs | Child Welfare | Early Education (Literacy) | Substance Abuse (Opioids)
- “Last year, the Arkansas Department of Education launched the Reading Initiative for Student Excellence, better known as the RISE. The goal of this initiative is to promote a culture of reading by emphasizing phonics, while establishing the importance of reading in homes, schools, and communities.”

CA

**Governor Edmund “Jerry” Brown | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (ACA, Health Insurance Exchange, Medicaid Expansion) | Disaster Preparedness | Environmental Health
- “When it comes to health care, California has boldly embraced the Affordable Care Act by enrolling five million more people into our Medi-Cal program and 1.3 million into the California health exchange, Covered California.”

CO

**Governor John Hickenlooper | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Affordable Care Act, Medicaid Expansion, Hospital Provider Fee) | Adolescent Health | Early Childhood Education | Environmental Health | Marijuana Legalization | Poverty (Homelessness/Housing) | Substance Abuse (Opioids)
- “We lifted families out of poverty with a focus on two-generation solutions.”

CT

**Governor Dannel Malloy | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Health Insurance Exchange) | Adolescent Health | Environmental Health | Firearms | Juvenile Justice | LGBT Issues (Same Sex Marriage) | Poverty (Homelessness/Housing, Minimum Wage, Paid Leave)
- “We passed bipartisan gun violence prevention laws that are among the strongest in the nation, and the people of Connecticut are safer for it.”

DE

**Governor John Carney | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: ACEs/Childhood Trauma | Early Childhood Education | Children’s Cabinet (Family Services Cabinet Council) | Health Care Costs | Poverty (Food Insecurity) | Substance Abuse (Opioids) | Violence Prevention
- “Of course, the best thing we can do to invest in our state’s future is to invest in quality education for every Delaware child.”

FL

**Governor Rick Scott | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Adoption and Foster Care | Disaster Preparedness | Substance Abuse (Opioids)

GA

**Governor Nathan Deal | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Early Childhood Education (Literacy) | Mental Health
- “...If we fail to reach Georgia’s youngest minds during that time (birth to kindergarten), if we fail to get them reading on grade level by the end of third grade, they are much more likely to fall behind, both in the classroom and the life that awaits them beyond.”

HI

**Governor David Ige | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care | Environmental Health | Immigration (DACA) | Poverty (Homelessness/Housing, Wages)
- “So many of us are living paycheck to paycheck, relying heavily on our extended family to make ends meet. Owning a home, is out of reach for many families, with housing costs rising faster than wages.”

[Click on the governor's name for contact information] [Click on Inaugural Address or State of the State Address for the text of the speech]

ID

**Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Medicaid) | Early Childhood Education (Literacy) | Pediatric Workforce
- "For all of us, literacy is essential to developing the other skills needed to advance successfully through life. Thousands of Idaho children start their educational journey already reading below grade level."

IL

**Governor Bruce Rauner | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Human Trafficking | Substance Abuse (Opioids, Prescription Drug Monitoring Program) | Violence Prevention

IN

**Governor Eric Holcomb | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Medicaid) | Adoption and Foster Care | Child Abuse and Neglect | Infant Mortality | Substance Abuse (Opioids, Prescription Drug Monitoring System)
- "So tonight, I'm setting a goal to become the best state in the Midwest for infant mortality rates by 2024."

IA

**Governor Kim Reynolds | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Medicaid) | Managed Care Organizations | Mental Health | Physician Workforce | Substance Abuse (Prescription Drug Monitoring System, Opiates, Opioids)
- "And today I am calling on the legislature to pass legislation to reduce the number of opioids prescribed in Iowa."

KS

**Governor Jeff Colyer, MD | Inaugural Address | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Medicaid) | Adoption and Foster Care | Child Abuse and Neglect | Children with Special Health Care Needs | Mental Health | Substance Abuse (Opioids)

KY

**Governor Matt Bevin | State of the State Address (text not available)**

- Issues mentioned: Adoption and Foster Care | Substance Abuse (Opioids)

LA

**Governor John Bel Edwards | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Medicaid) | Adoption and Foster Care | Infant Mortality | Perinatal Health | Poverty (Food Insecurity, Minimum Wage) | Substance Abuse (Opioids)
- "And to further increase opportunities for all children, we must find ways to lift families out of poverty."

ME

**Governor Paul LePage | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Medicaid) | Autism | Children with Special Health Care Needs
- "However, make no mistake: Medicaid expansion is the law, and I will execute the law."

MD

**Governor Larry Hogan | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Environmental Health | Human Trafficking | Substance Abuse (Opioids) | Violence Prevention

MA

**Governor Charlie Baker | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Health Insurance Exchange) | Early Childhood Education | Environmental Health | Mental Health | Poverty (Homelessness/Housing, Earned Income Tax Credit) | Substance Abuse (Opioids, Prescription Drug Monitoring Program)
- "We're proposing another increase in the EITC in our budget which would result in a doubling of the credit."

MI

**Governor Rick Snyder | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Early childhood Education (Literacy, PreK) | Environmental Health (Lead)

[Click on the governor's name for contact information] [Click on Inaugural Address or State of the State Address for the text of the speech]

**MN**

**Governor Mark Dayton | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Affordable Care Act, Costs, Medicaid) | Early Childhood Education (PreK) | Firearms
- "This school year, nearly 80,000 children are attending all-day kindergarten and early learning programs thanks to those wise investments; and they are getting better starts in school and life because of them."

**MS**

**Governor Phil Bryant | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Child Care | Children's Hospital | Children with Special Health Care Needs | Early Childhood Education | Obesity | Pediatric Palliative Care | Physician Workforce | Substance Abuse (Opioids)
- "If there is ever a mission of mercy we can achieve, it is this palliative care medical home for the children of Blair E. Batson (children's hospital)."

**MO**

**Governor Eric Greitens | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Adoption and Foster Care | Child Abuse and Neglect
- "Some of the people who need us most, who are counting on us, are the children in the Missouri foster care system, all 13,000 of them."

**MT**

**Governor Steve Bullock | State of the State Address**

- No address in 2018.

**NE**

**Governor Pete Ricketts | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Child Welfare | Substance Abuse
- "DHHS reports that in the first seven months of 2017, parents using methamphetamine were a factor in one of every three removals of children from their homes...That's why I will be forming a new child welfare task force to determine the root causes."

**NV**

**Governor Brian Sandoval | State of the State Address**

- No address in 2018.

**NH**

**Governor Chris Sununu | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Medicaid) | Adoption and Foster Care | Child Abuse and Neglect | Child Welfare (Office of the Child Advocate) | Home Visiting | Immigrant Child Health (DACA) | Mental Health | Poverty | Substance Abuse (Opioids) | Violence Prevention (Schools)
- "When we talk about issues of drug misuse, homelessness, and abused children, we must all agree that 1 is too many. The fight can never stop. "

**NJ**

**Governor Phil Murphy | Inaugural Address | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care | Environmental Health | Firearms | Immigration (DACA) | LGBT Issues | Marijuana (Legalization) | Poverty (Housing, Minimum Wage, Paid Sick Leave)

**NM**

**Governor Susana Martinez | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Child Abuse and Neglect | Child Care | Child Well-Being | Early Childhood Education (PreK) | Firearms | Poverty (Food Insecurity)
- "If we want to really make New Mexico the best place to be a kid, we have to change our mindset. No single government program or agency, or non-profit, can dramatically improve child well-being alone. What it takes is the realization that all of us, pulling together, can do little things that make a big difference. "

**NY**

**Governor Andrew Cuomo | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Medicaid and CHIP) | Diversity and Inclusion | Early Childhood Education (PreK) | Environmental Health | Firearms | Immigrant Child Health | LGBT Issues (Marriage Equality) | Substance Abuse (Opioids) | Poverty (Housing/Homelessness, Minimum Wage, Paid Leave)

**NC**

**Governor Roy Cooper | State of the State Address**

- No address in 2018.

[Click on the governor's name for contact information] [Click on Inaugural Address or State of the State Address for the text of the speech]

ND

**Governor Doug Burgum | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Disaster Preparedness | Environmental Health | Substance Abuse (Opioids)
- “Addiction can happen to anyone, anywhere, anytime. This is tearing apart the social fabric of our communities around the country. And from a state level we’ve got to everything we can to try to reverse that trend.”

OH

**Governor John Kasich | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care | Children with Special Health Care Needs | Human Trafficking | Infant Mortality | Substance Abuse (Opiates, Opioids)

OK

**Governor Mary Fallin | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Medicaid, Payment) | Adoption and Foster Care | Child Abuse and Neglect | Mental Health | Substance Abuse
- “We now have more safe, loving foster care homes. In fact, Oklahoma has the highest number of gains in foster care homes in the nation!”

OR

**Governor Kate Brown | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Medicaid and CHIP) | Substance Abuse (Opioids)
- “We must tackle the opioid crisis that threatens the ability of so many Oregonians to lead healthy and productive lives.”

PA

**Governor Tom Wolfe | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Medicaid) | Early Childhood Education (PreK) | Marijuana (Medical) | Substance Abuse (Opioids) | Violence Prevention
- “Today, we have nearly 100,000 students enrolled in full-day kindergarten, and we’ve increased the number of kids able to attend pre-kindergarten by nearly half.”

RI

**Governor Gina Raimondo | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care | Child Care | Early Childhood Education (PreK) | Environmental Health | Mental Health | Poverty (Minimum Wage, Paid Sick Leave) | Substance Abuse (Opioids)

SC

**Governor Henry McMaster | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Poverty | Substance Abuse (Opioids)
- “Another threat we now face comes in pill form. The opioid epidemic is affecting every state in the country. But it’s not a typical crime problem; it’s a crisis born of human pain and suffering.”

SD

**Governor Dennis Daugaard | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Environmental Health | Infant Mortality | Juvenile Justice | Substance Abuse (Opiates, Opioids)
- “Since 2011, we’ve seen smoking during pregnancy decline by 19.5%.”

TN

**Governor Bill Haslem | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Juvenile Justice | Substance Abuse (Opioids)
- “Last week, we announced TN Together, a comprehensive plan to end the opioid crisis that focuses on prevention, treatment and law enforcement.”

TX

**Governor Greg Abbott | State of the State Address**

- No address in 2018.

UT

**Governor Gary Herbert | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Environmental Health | Suicide Prevention
- “The fact that suicide has become the leading cause of death among our young people horrifies me.”

[Click on the governor's name for contact information] [Click on Inaugural Address or State of the State Address for the text of the speech]

**VT**

**Governor Phil Scott | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care | Child Care | Early Childhood Education | Environmental Health | Substance Abuse (Opioids)

**VA**

**Governor Ralph Northam | Inaugural Address | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Medicaid Expansion) | Firearms | Poverty (Food Insecurity)
- "It is past time for us to step forward together and expand Medicaid to nearly 400,000 Virginians who need access to care."

**WA**

**Governor Jay Inslee | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Adolescent Health | Immigration (DACA) | Environmental Health | Firearms | Mental Health |
- "We can continue our commitment to public safety and health by banning bump stocks, closing the loophole on semi-automatic rifles, and requiring the safe storage of firearms."

**WI**

**Governor Scott Walker | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care | Children with Special Health Care Needs | Substance Abuse (Opioids)
- "So, today, I propose that we create a child tax credit in Wisconsin. Families across the state will receive \$100 for every child, under 18, living at home. A couple hundred dollars more in the family budget could really make a difference particularly when getting ready for the next school year."

**WV**

**Governor Jim Justice | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Child Abuse and Neglect | Poverty (Child Tax Credit) | Substance Abuse (Opioids)
- "Every 18-year-old in West Virginia, one in ten of them, one in ten of them before they reach the age of 18 suffers some level of child sexual abuse. It's got to stop. It has to stop. And we're on it. And some way, somehow, we're going to stop it."

**WY**

**Governor Matt Mead | State of the State Address**

- Issues mentioned: Bullying | Poverty (Homeless/Housing) | Substance Abuse (Opioids) | Suicide | Tobacco (tax)
- "We have to keep adequate resources at work on suicide, bullying, and homelessness. We must also stay abreast of the opioid crisis."

**DC**

**Mayor Muriel Bowser | State of the District Address**

- Issues mentioned: Access to Care (Affordable Care Act) | Child Care | Early Childhood Education | Firearms | Mental Health | Neonatal Care | Poverty (Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, Homeless/Housing) | Violence Prevention
- "So in my upcoming budget, I am creating a new refundable tax credit to help lower the cost of childcare in Washington, DC."