

April 10, 2019

All Ontario Senators The Senate of Canada Ottawa, ON K1A 0A4

Dear Honourable Ontario Senators:

# Re: Support for Bill S-228, Child Health Protection Act

On behalf of the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts, please accept this correspondence reaffirming our full support for Bill S-228, Child Health Protection Act, which, when passed, would ban food and beverage marketing to children under 13 years of age.

Food and beverage advertisements directed at children can negatively influence lifelong eating attitudes and behaviours (including food preferences, purchase requests, and consumption patterns). Regulation of food and beverage marketing to children is considered an effective and cost saving population-based intervention to improve health and prevent disease.

In 2016, the Board of Health supported a motion in support of Bill S-228 and urged the federal government to implement a legislative framework to protect child health by ensuring protection from aggressive marketing of unhealthy food and beverages. Additionally, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies and the Ontario Dietitians in Public Health have submitted letters expressing their full support for Bill S-228.

The Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts commends you for your leadership in the development of this landmark piece of legislation. Bill S-228 has passed its third reading in the House of Commons and is awaiting royal assent. As a critical step to improving the health of Canadians, we respectfully request that you pass Bill S-228 without further delay.

Sincerely,

René Lapierre, Chair Board of Health, Public Health Sudbury & Districts

cc: Association of Local Public Health Agencies Ontario Boards of Health

Sudbury

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