

2022 - 2023 Board of Directors

**President**

David A. Khan, MD, FAAAAI  
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center  
Dallas, TX

**President-Elect**

Jonathan A. Bernstein, MD, FAAAAI  
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine  
Bernstein Allergy Group and Clinical Research Center  
Cincinnati, OH

**Secretary-Treasurer**

Paul V. Williams, MD, FAAAAI  
Northwest Asthma & Allergy Center  
Seattle, WA

**Immediate Past-President**

Giselle Mosnaim, MD, MS, FAAAAI  
NorthShore University HealthSystem  
Evanston, IL

**At-Large Executive Committee Member**

Stuart L. Abramson, MD, PhD, AEC, FAAAAI  
Shannon Medical Center/Shannon Clinic  
San Angelo, TX

**At-Large Members**

Cem Akin, MD, PhD, FAAAAI  
University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, MI

Leonard B. Bacharier, MD, FAAAAI  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
Nashville, TN

Priya J. Bansal, MD, FAAAAI  
Asthma and Allergy Wellness Center  
St. Charles, IL

Carla M. Davis, MD, FAAAAI  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Houston, TX

Denise A. DiPrimio-Kalman, DO, FAAAAI  
Nemours/Al DuPont Hospital for Children  
Wilmington, DE

Anna H. Nowak-Wegrzyn, MD, PhD, FAAAAI  
NYU Grossman School of Medicine  
New York, NY

Tamara T. Perry, MD, FAAAAI  
UAMS/Arkansas Children's Hospital  
Little Rock, AR

Wanda Phipatanakul, MD, MS, FAAAAI  
Boston Children's Hospital | Harvard Medical School  
Boston, MA

Thanai Pongdee, MD, FAAAAI  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, MN

Sarbjit (Romi) Saini, MD, FAAAAI  
Johns Hopkins Allergy Asthma Center  
Baltimore, MD

Frank Virant, MD, FAAAAI  
Northwest Asthma & Allergy Center  
Seattle, WA

**Executive Vice President**

Thomas A. Fleisher, MD, FAAAAI

**Executive Director**

Rebecca Brandt, CAE

**Executive Director Emeritus**

Kay Whalen, MBA, CAE

The Honorable Bobby Scott  
2328 Rayburn House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Bonamici  
2231 Rayburn House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: Support for H.R. 8450, the Healthy Meals, Healthy Kids Act**

Dear Representatives Scott and Bonamici:

I write on behalf of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI) in support of **H.R. 8450, the Healthy Meals, Healthy Kids Act**. We appreciate that H.R. 8450 would reauthorize and modernize the federal child nutrition programs and thank you for including enhanced support for individuals with food allergies.

Established in 1943, the AAAAI is a professional association with over 7,000 members in the United States, Canada and 72 other countries. This membership includes allergist/immunologists (A/I), other medical specialists, allied health, and related healthcare professionals, all with a special interest in the research and treatment of patients with allergic and immunologic diseases.

Food allergies affect 32 million Americans, including 6 million children. The AAAAI supports H.R. 8450, which would reauthorize and modernize federal child nutrition programs and make necessary improvements for those living with food allergies. The AAAAI is especially pleased with Section 305, which would ensure support for Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) eligible individuals impacted by food allergies. This provision would ensure creation and distribution of accurate nutrition education materials in multiple languages for WIC participants, which will advance health equity and eliminate disparities for those with food allergies.

Thank you for your leadership on this important legislation. As issues related to allergies, asthma, and immunological disorders arise, I encourage you to contact Sheila Heitzig, JD, MNM, CAE, AAAAI Director of Practice and Policy, at (414) 272-6071 or sheitzig@aaaai.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



David A. Khan, MD, FAAAAI  
President, American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology