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## **Statement by American Academy of Pediatrics President Renée R. Jenkins, MD, FAAP, on U.S. Supreme Court hearing on the D.C. Handgun Ban**

“The U.S. Supreme Court today has an opportunity to save children’s lives. The American Academy of Pediatrics, representing more than 60,000 pediatricians, urges the Justices to uphold the District of Columbia’s handgun ban. We can’t afford to lose any of the laws needed to keep guns out of children’s homes and the communities where they live, play and go to school. It is the best way to protect children and adolescents, and their families, from the pain and devastation caused by firearms-related injuries.”

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*The American Academy of Pediatrics is an organization of 60,000 primary care pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists and pediatric surgical specialists dedicated to the health, safety and well being of infants, children, adolescents and young adults.*

**Note to reporters:** Please go to <http://www.aap.org/advocacy/washing/Testimonies-Statements-Petitions/01-11-08-Heller-Amicus-Brief.pdf> for the *amicus curiae* brief filed by the American Academy of Pediatrics and other health and children’s advocates in support of the D.C. handgun ban. For interviews, please contact Macon Morehouse (202-724-3303; [mmorehouse@aap.org](mailto:mmorehouse@aap.org)) or Priscilla Ring (202-724-3304; [pring@aap.org](mailto:pring@aap.org)).