



June 28, 2010

141 Northwest Point Blvd
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-1098
Phone: 847/434-4000
Fax: 847/434-8000
E-mail: kidsdocs@aap.org
www.aap.org

Ellen McIntyre, OAM, PhD, IBCLC
Chairperson, International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners
6402 Arlington Blvd, Suite 350
Falls Church, VA 22042
Via e-mail: international@iblce.org

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Angela Smith, RN, BA, IBCLC, CM
President, International Lactation Consultant Association
2501 Aerial Center Parkway, Suite 103
Morrisville, North Carolina, 27560
Via e-mail: angelasmith@ilca.org

Dear Dr McIntyre and Ms Smith:

It is with great enthusiasm that the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) commends both the International Lactation Consultant Association (ILCA) and the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners (IBLCE) on the 25th anniversary of their founding. The AAP has always supported the benefits of breastfeeding for both mothers and infants. Given the difficulties and challenges mothers may experience, we recognize the important role a lactation consultant can play in ensuring success of exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months and continued breastfeeding beyond that period.

Breastfeeding has received important support over the last several months. The inclusion of requirements in the health reform package that require employers with more than 50 employees to provide space and time for breastfeeding is a great support for working, breastfeeding mothers. In addition, First Lady Michelle Obama's *Let's Move!* campaign contains a number of important measures related to increasing awareness of the importance of breastfeeding as a first step in preventing obesity. The AAP, its Section on Breastfeeding, and the IBLCE and ILCA can look forward to many more years of working together to implement these and other activities to increase the rates of breastfeeding and improve the health of mothers and children around the world.

Again, our sincerest congratulations to the ILCA and the IBLCE, and wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judith S. Palfrey".

Judith S Palfrey, MD, FAAP
President

JP/hf

cc: Errol Alden, MD, FAAP
Ruth Lawrence, MD, FABM, FAAP
Roger Suchyta, MD, FAAP
Sunnah Kim
Ed Zimmerman