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May 10, 2018

The Honorable Marc Levine  
State Capitol, Room 5135  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: ?A?B 2587 (Levine) Disability compensation: paid family leave**  
**AAP-CA Position: Support**

Dear Assemblyman Levine,

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 California pediatricians, supports your proposed legislation AB 2587 (Levine), which would delete the reference to the requirement for Paid Family Leave (PFL) program claimants to serve an unpaid seven-day waiting period at the beginning of their claim.

The PFL program provides benefits to eligible workers who suffer a loss of wages when they need to take time off work to care for a seriously ill family member, as defined, or to bond with a new child. A child's health and well-being is greatly affected by the presence or absence of a parent or caregiver, especially at the earliest stages of development. In addition, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that healthy infants not be placed in childcare until they are at least 12 weeks old, as newborns experience rapid developmental changes during this period and are at greater risk of developing severe, difficult-to-detect illness.

AB 2587 will ensure working family members can bond with their newborn child as soon as possible by eliminating the reference to an unpaid seven-day waiting period to qualify for the PFL program.

Pediatrician members of AAP California Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4 statewide strongly support proposed legislation AB 2587 (Levine). Thank you for your public service and leadership on behalf of the health and well-being of children, youth, and families in California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kris E. Calvin".

Kris Calvin  
Chief Executive Officer, American Academy of Pediatrics, California

cc: AAP-CA Leadership; Lobbyist Lydia Bourne