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March 26, 2018

The Honorable Jose Medina  
Chair, Assembly Higher Education Committee  
Legislative Office Building, 1020 N Street, Room 173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: ?AB 2210 (McCarty) Public postsecondary education: holders of certain special immigrant visas**  
**AAP-CA Position: Support**

Dear Chair Medina,

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 California pediatricians, strongly supports AB 2210 (McCarty), which would exempt students granted special immigrant visas from paying nonresident tuition at the California Community Colleges.

Under the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006, certain Afghan and Iraqi nationals who had been displaced due to the wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria and other countries were provided special immigrant status visas (SIV) in the United States. Between 2011 and March 2017, 9,200 SIV holders resettled in California.

Students who have been granted special immigrant visas belong to families that have escaped war and persecution, seeking safety and better lives. They encounter numerous barriers when assimilating into the United States, including the cost of higher education.

AB 2210 (McCarty) would help the students with special immigrant visas rebuild their families and their lives by exempting them from paying nonresident tuition at the California Community Colleges.

Pediatrician members of AAP California Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4 across the state urge you to vote AYE on AB 2210 (McCarty). Thank you for your public service and leadership on behalf of the health and wellbeing of children, youth, and families in California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name with a large initial.

Jayne Congdon, M.D., M.S.

Resident Representative Member, AAP-CA State Government Affairs Committee

American Academy of Pediatrics, California

cc: Assembly Higher Education Committee Members

Office of Honorable Kevin McCarty, California State Assembly (Author)

AAP-CA Leadership; Lobbyist Lydia Bourne