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May 24, 2018

The Honorable Joaquin Arambula  
State Capitol Room 2114  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: ?AB 2597 (Arambula) Programs in Medical Education  
AAP-CA Position: Support**

Dear Assemblyman Arambula,

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 California pediatricians statewide, supports your proposed legislation AB 2597 to appropriate \$9,350,000 from the General Fund to the Regents of the University of California for allocation to the University of California to support Programs in Medical Education (PRIME).

The current distribution of primary care pediatricians is inadequate to meet the needs of children living in rural and other underserved areas, and even more primary care pediatricians will be needed in the future. One factor affecting pediatrician supply is availability of funding for pediatric graduate medical education.

UC PRIME is an innovative training program focused on meeting the needs of California's underserved populations in both rural communities and urban areas by combining specialized coursework, structured clinical experiences, advanced independent study, and mentoring. The program is not fully funded. To reach the size and enrollment levels originally planned, an additional \$9,350,000 is needed.

AB 2597 would appropriate \$9,350,000 from the General Fund to the Regents of the University of California for allocation to the University of California to support Programs in Medical Education (PRIME), and would require the university to fully fund, at minimum, the 2018–19 level of full-time student enrollment in PRIME for the 2019–20 academic year. Additionally, the University would submit a report on how to expand full-time enrollment in PRIME.

Pediatrician members of AAP California Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4 statewide strongly support proposed legislation AB 2597. Thank you for your public service and leadership on behalf of the health and well-being of children, youth, and families in California.

Sincerely,

*Kris E. Calvin*

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

cc: AAP-CA Leadership; Lobbyist Lydia Bourne