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June 21, 2017

The Honorable Ben Allen  
Chair, Senate Education Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2083  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 10 (Garcia) Feminine hygiene products: public school restrooms  
AAP-CA Position: SUPPORT

Dear Senator Allen:

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA) representing 5,000 California pediatricians strongly supports AB 10 (Garcia), a bill that would require public schools serving pupils in grades six through twelve which enroll at least 40% of pupils from low income families to stock restrooms with feminine hygiene products.

The cost of feminine hygiene products disproportionately affects women with lower incomes, including teens, since it is a higher percentage of their total income. This legislation would put medically-necessary feminine hygiene products within reach of young women in school to ensure that they have access to a basic commodity that is vital for the healthy development of youth. This would in turn help ensure that young women are able to focus on their education while at school and would not suffer negative health effects or social difficulties as a result of a lack of funds to purchase basic necessities such as feminine hygiene products.

California pediatricians respectfully urge an AYE vote on AB 10 and 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 black ink that reads "Kris E. Calvin".

Kris Calvin  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Academy of Pediatrics, California

CC: Stuart Cohen, MD AAP-CA Chair; Lydia Bourne, AAP-CA Legislative Advocate; AAP-CA Leadership