



May 16, 2017

The Honorable Brian Maienschein
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 94249
Fax: (916) 319-2177

RE: AB 1006 (Maienschein): Foster youth
AAP-CA Position: SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Maienschein:

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 California pediatricians, strongly supports proposed legislation AB 1006 (Maienschein). This bill would require that certain permanency services be provided to foster youth in order to facilitate their placement with permanent families.

Foster youth are among the most vulnerable populations in California. Many have lived through multiple, often severe traumas, receive little or no family support, and must regularly integrate themselves into entirely new living environments while also managing their academic careers. It is essential that we work towards providing foster youth with the security and stability of permanent homes. This, in turn, requires that we provide them with critical support services, such as permanency services that are currently underutilized despite their proven effectiveness at improving outcomes for foster youth.

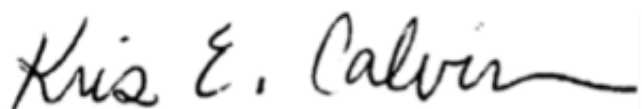
AB 1006 (Maienschein) would help foster youth move towards stable outcomes by requiring that case plans for those in foster care for at least 3 years address the use of permanency services, providing written information about permanency services to members of Child and Family Teams, requiring that case plans for foster youth 14 and older include information describing permanency services and that this information be provided to the foster youth, and requiring that case plans include the efforts taken to place a foster youth with a permanent family. These changes would help move foster youth into permanent homes and thus improve their short- and long-term physical and mental well-being.

Pediatricians across the state support AB 1006 (Maienschein). We thank you for your leadership on behalf of the health and well-being of children, youth, and families in California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Krivanoff".

Elizabeth Kuilanoff, M.D., M.P.H.
Senior Policy Analyst, AAP-CA

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kris E. Calvin" with a long, sweeping horizontal line at the end.

Kris Calvin
Chief Executive Officer
American Academy of Pediatrics, California

CC: AAP-CA Leadership; Lydia Bourne