



August 25, 2016

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1386 (Low) Emergency medical care: epinephrine auto-injectors
AAP-CA Position: Support

Dear Governor Brown:

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA) representing 5,000 California pediatricians strongly supports AB 1386 (Low). AB 1386 would increase the availability of epi-pens across the state and would make California safer for children who suffer from potentially life-threatening allergic reactions.

Increasing the availability of epi-pens is a matter of urgency for the eight percent of U.S. children who suffer from food allergies, especially for the two in five of those children who have a history of severe allergic reactions. While many of these children carry an epi-pen with them, others are unaware of their food allergy until they suffer a severe reaction – at which point, the presence of an available epi-pen could literally be a matter of life or death.

AB 1386 would reduce children's vulnerability to severe allergic attacks by allowing businesses, community centers, and other locations to maintain epi-pens on site for emergency use. This would make it far more likely that children who suffer from an unexpected severe allergic attack would be able to access an epi-pen, thus potentially reducing deaths and complications resulting from anaphylactic shock.

Pediatricians, therefore, respectfully urge you to sign AB 1386 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 cursive script that reads "Kris E. Calvin".

Kris Calvin
Chief Executive Officer
American Academy of Pediatrics, California

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