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April 1, 2018

Honorable Freddie Rodriguez  
State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249

**RE: AB 1747 (Rodriguez): School safety plans**  
**AAP-CA Position: Support**

Dear Assemblymember Rodriguez:

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 California pediatricians, supports your proposed legislation AB 1747 (Rodriguez), which would expand the required elements of school safety plans to include procedures to respond to active shooter situations, require schools to conduct annual active shooter drills, and require the California Department of Education to provide related guidance and oversight.

According to Everytown for Gun Safety, 84 gun incidents occurred at K-12 schools in the United States between 2013 and 2015; in most of the documented incidents, the shooter intentionally killed or injured at least one other person. While federal and state agencies recommend that schools have procedures for responding to active shooter incidents, it is not required, leaving many schools unprepared to adequately respond. For comparison, fire drills are widely practiced in California schools—as they should be—but an analysis by Safe Havens International found no deaths as a result of fire on a school campus in the United States between 1998 and 2012.

AB 1747 (Rodriguez) would make sure that our schools are better prepared to adequately protect children by making sure that they develop response plans to prepare for an active shooter situation. This measure stands to save lives of children and staff in the event of a school shooting

Pediatrician members of AAP California Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4 across the state strongly support your proposed legislation AB 1747 (Rodriguez). Thank you for your public service and leadership on behalf of the health and wellbeing of children, youth, and families in California.

Sincerely,

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

cc: AAP-CA Leadership; Lobbyist Lydia Bourne