



May 22, 2017

The Honorable Ed Chau
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0049
Fax: (916) 319-2149

RE: AB 175 (Chau): Adult-use marijuana: marketing: packaging and labeling.
AAP-CA Position: SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Chau:

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 board-certified California pediatricians, strongly supports your proposed legislation AB 175 (Chau). This bill would require that packaging and labeling for recreational edible marijuana products be reviewed and approved by the Bureau of Medical Cannabis Regulation prior to their use to ensure that the packaging is childproof and not attractive to children.

The State of Colorado legalized marijuana for recreational use in 2012. In an effort to track pediatric marijuana exposure before and after legalization, a 2016 study by the journal JAMA Pediatrics found that between January 2009 and December 2015 there were 163 marijuana exposure cases for children under 10 years old in Colorado. Eighty-one patients were evaluated at Children's Hospital Colorado, Aurora. The median age of the eighty-one patients was 2.4 years and infused edibles were involved in 30 cases. To prevent cases like those in Colorado from happening in California after last year's Prop 64/Adult Use of Marijuana Act, we must pay close attention to consumer protection, especially for children.

AB 175 (Chau) would significantly reduce the risk that Californians, including children and teens, would knowingly or accidentally consume marijuana edibles. Marijuana products must be sold only in re-sealable, childproof packaging that deters young children from consuming what they might easily think are simple desserts, and must not be made to look like food products that would be attractive to children. To protect California's consumers, and our children, we must institute a strict review process for marijuana product packaging, such as the one established by this bill.

California pediatricians strongly support AB 175 (Chau). We 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, appearing to read "Nancy Graff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, stylized initial "N".

Nancy Graff, M.D., Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics
State Government Affairs Committee, American Academy of Pediatrics, California

CC: Kris Calvin, CEO; AAP-CA Leadership; Lydia Bourne