



March 6, 2018

The Honorable Jim Wood,
Chair, Assembly Health Committee
State Capitol, Room 6005
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1766 (Maienschein) – Swimming pools: public safety
AAP-CA Position: Support

Dear Assembly Member Wood,

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 California pediatricians, supports AB 1766 (Maienschein). This bill would require public swimming pools to provide an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) during pool operations, as specified, and also require the State Department of Education, in consultation with the State Department of Public Health, to issue best practices guidelines related to pool safety at K–12 schools, as specified.

Drowning is a leading cause of accidental death in children under five year of age where swimming pools or beaches are accessible.¹ According to the best medical evidence, time to effective basic life support is a crucial determinant of prognosis. Basic life support includes high-quality chest compressions and application of automated external defibrillator.²

AB 1766 (Maienschein) would require public swimming schools to provide an AED, which would help reduce accidental deaths from drownings.

Pediatricians across the state urge you to vote AYE on AB 1766 (Maienschein). 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: Assembly Health Committee Members
Office of Honorable Brian Maienschein, California State Assembly (Author)

Lydia Bourne, AAP-CA Lobbyist; Kyu Seo Kim, MD, AAP-CA Policy Analyst

1 <https://tinyurl.com/yc94tanw>

2 <https://tinyurl.com/yc94tanw>