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February 28, 2018

Honourable Blanca Rubio  
Chair, Assembly Human Services Committee  
State Capitol, Room 5175  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1883 (Weber) – Child care and development services: military families: alternative payment programs  
AAP-CA Position: Support

Dear Chair Rubio,

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 California pediatricians, supports AB 1883 (Weber). This bill would expand federal and state subsidized child development services for families who are on state or federal active duty, active duty for special work, or Active Guard and Reserve duty in the military by not including the amount of the basic allowance for housing provided to them if the allowance is equal to the lowest rate of the allowance for the military housing area in which the family resides, in determining eligibility for services under the Child Care and Development Services Act.

The Child Care and Development Services Act, administered by the State Department of Education, provides that children from infancy to 13 years of age are eligible for federal and state subsidized child development services if their families meet at least one requirement in each of certain areas.

Many California families benefit greatly from subsidized child care services that enable parents to work or pursue an education knowing that their children are being cared for. In 2015, the cost of child care for an infant and school-age child in a licensed center was equal to 99 percent of the annual income for a single mother and two children living at the federal poverty line (\$19,096).

Child care subsidies aid in job stability, increase in parents' earnings, and most importantly allow families to enroll their children in higher-quality child care where their children develop, learn and grow.

AB 1883 (Weber) would expand eligibility for subsidized child care and development services, enabling families to benefit from safe, high-quality child care, thus improving the health and well-being of children across the state.

Pediatricians across the state urge you to vote AYE on AB 1883 (Weber). Thank you for your public service and leadership on behalf of the health and wellbeing of children, youth, and families in California.

Sincerely,

Marti Baum, M.D., Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics  
State Government Affairs Committee, American Academy of Pediatrics – California

cc: Assembly Human Services Committee Members  
Office of Honorable Dr. Shirley Weber, California State Assembly (Author)  
Kris Calvin, AAP-CA CEO; Lydia Bourne, AAP-CA Lobbyist