



March 14, 2018

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

Re: AB 1893 (Maienschein) Maternal mental health: federal funding
AAP-CA Position: Support

Dear Chair Wood,

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 California pediatricians, supports AB 1893 (Maienschein), which would require the State Department of Public Health to investigate and apply for federal funding opportunities regarding maternal mental health, as specified, and to prepare a report to the Legislature on or before January 1, 2020, on how the department plans to use the federal funding it receives.

According to the CDC Pregnancy Risk Assessment monitoring system, nationally 1 in 9 women experience symptoms of postpartum depression. The consequences of postpartum depression can be seen from the early infant days all the way into adolescence. Adverse outcomes can range from poor coping mechanisms and lower cognitive performance to ADHD and substance abuse and alcohol dependence.¹

AB 1893 (Maienschein) would expand the opportunities regarding maternal mental health including postpartum depression by requiring the State Department of Public Health to apply for funding as a step towards healthier California families.

Pediatricians across the state urge you to vote AYE on AB 2119 (Gloria). 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)
AAP-CA Leadership; Lobbyist Lydia Bourne; Jeanette Fong, MD, Policy Analyst

1 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2724169/table/t1-pch09575/>