



May 8, 2018

The Honorable Benjamin Allen
Chair, Senate Education Committee
State Capitol, Room 6005
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2009 (Maienschein) Interscholastic athletic programs: school districts: written emergency action plans: automated external defibrillator
AAP-CA Position: Support

Dear Chair Allen,

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 California pediatricians, supports proposed legislation AB 2009 (Maienschein), which would require that school districts or charter schools that offer interscholastic athletic programs have a sufficient number of AEDs, as specified, and ensure there is an emergency action plan in place for sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) or other medical emergencies.

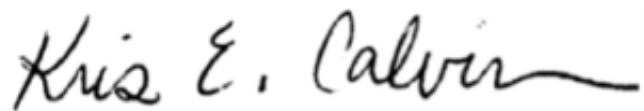
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has estimated that annually in the United States, approximately 2000 patients younger than 25 years die of sudden cardiac arrest (SCA).¹ SCA is the most common cause of death among young athletes. The National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) reports that 62 percent of cases involving sudden death in competitive athletes are due to SCA.

An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) significantly increases an athlete's chance of survival in the event of an SCA, with a 90 percent chance of survival if administered within the first minute of cardiac arrest. If an AED is not administered in the first 10 minutes, the chance of survival diminishes to less than five percent. This emphasizes the importance of having an AED readily available for student athletes in cases of emergency.

AB 2009 (Maienschein) would ensure that there are a sufficient number of accessible and working AEDs in school districts or charter schools that choose to offer interscholastic athletic programs, and that there is an emergency action plan in place in case of an SCA event or other medical emergency.

Pediatrician members of AAP California Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4 statewide strongly support proposed legislation AB 2009 (Maienschein). 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 that reads "Kris E. Calvin" with a long, sweeping underline.

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

cc: Senate Education Committee Members
Office of Honorable Brian Maienschein, Author
AAP-CA Leadership; Lobbyist Lydia Bourne

¹ <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/early/2012/03/21/peds.2012-0144.full.pdf>