



June 19, 2018

The Honorable Bill Quirk
State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249

RE: AB 3009 (Quirk) Hazardous Materials: lead-based paint
AAP-CA Position: Support

Dear Assemblymember Quirk,

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 California pediatricians, strongly supports your proposed legislation AB 3009 to enact \$1 per gallon fee on paint manufacturers in the event a proposed California ballot measure stating that lead paint is not a public nuisance passes.

Currently, paint manufacturers are legally responsible for paying to remove or abate lead. They have, however, proposed a California initiative to relieve themselves of that liability, essentially reversing those legal decisions, and shifting the financial responsibility for lead abatement to California homeowners. Lead-based paint removal can cost between \$8 and \$15 per square foot and nearly 60% of houses in California are presumed to have lead paint.

Exposure to lead in products such as lead paint has harmful effects on children's intellectual abilities, academic abilities, and birth weight. While blood lead concentrations have decreased dramatically in children in the United States over the past four decades, too many children still live in housing with lead-based paint and are at risk for lead exposure. It is important to reduce sources of lead exposure and prevent childhood lead exposure.¹

AB 3009 would impose a fee on manufacturers with the collected fees being deposited into the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Fund to ensure funds are available to residents to clean lead-contaminated homes, protecting children from lead exposure and its harmful effects.

Pediatrician members of AAP California Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4 statewide strongly support your proposed legislation AB 3009. Thank you for your public service and leadership on behalf of the health and wellbeing of children, youth, and families in California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "RJK".

Suzanne Higgins Stewart, M.D.
Resident Representative Member, AAP-CA State Government Affairs Committee
American Academy of Pediatrics, California

cc: AAP-CA Leadership; Lobbyist Lydia Bourne

1 <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/138/1/e20161493>