



August 25, 2016

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 717 (Gonzalez): Sales and use taxes: exemptions: diapers
AAP-CA Position: Support

Dear Governor Brown:

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA) representing over 5,000 California pediatricians strongly supports AB 717 (Gonzalez). As amended, AB 717 would establish a temporary sales and use tax exemption for diapers designed, manufactured, processed, fabricated, or packaged for use by infants and toddlers, designated size 3 or under until January 1, 2022.

Struggling, low-income families often lack sufficient supplies of diapers, due to prohibitive costs. AB 717 would help combat resulting health risks and costs, as infrequent diaper changes can result in painful diaper rash, skin infection, blisters and urinary tract infections, leading to a doctor's office or emergency department visit. Additionally, a 2013 study by Yale researchers concluded that having enough diapers may be "a tangible way of reducing parenting stress, a critical factor influencing child health and development."

Pediatricians urge you to sign AB 717 and 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".

Kris Calvin
Chief Executive Officer
American Academy of Pediatrics, California

CC: Stuart Cohen, AAP-CA Chair; Lydia Bourne, AAP-CA Legislative Advocate; AAP-CA Leadership