



January 26, 2017

The Honorable Autumn Burke
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249
Fax: (916) 319-2162

RE: HR 6 (Burke): Women's reproductive health
AAP-CA Position: Support

Dear Assemblywoman Burke:

I am writing on behalf of the American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 California pediatricians, in strong support for your proposed resolution HR 6 (Burke). HR 6 (Burke) would affirm the Assembly's commitment to protecting a woman's fundamental right to make her own reproductive decisions, and would urge the President and the United States Congress to stand by this right and to support access to reproductive healthcare, including that provided by Planned Parenthood.

The American Academy of Pediatrics supports comprehensive and confidential reproductive healthcare for adolescents, including access to contraception. These are services that many receive at Planned Parenthood, which has been a reliable resource for California women and families over the past century. Many Planned Parenthood health centers also provide general health care, including physicals, flu vaccines, support for tobacco cessation and high blood pressure screening.

In total, nearly 1 million California women today use Planned Parenthood for health care services, many of whom could not afford care elsewhere. It should also be noted that 17% of Planned Parenthood's patients are 19 or younger. California pediatricians find it especially concerning that efforts to defund Planned Parenthood will jeopardize the healthcare of many thousands of California teens.

For these reasons, pediatricians across the state support HR 6 (Burke). We thank you for your leadership on behalf of the health and well-being of children, youth, and families in California.

Sincerely,

Kris Calvin

Chief Executive Officer
American Academy of Pediatrics, California

CC: AAP-CA Leadership; Lydia Bourne