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September 26, 2018

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.  
Governor of the State of California  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 1004 (Wiener): Mental Health Services Act: prevention and early intervention.**  
**AAP-CA Position: Support**

Dear Governor Brown,

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 California pediatricians, respectfully requests your signature on legislation SB 1004 (Wiener), which would expand effective early intervention for children, teenagers, college students, and young adults experiencing early signs of mental illness.

Fifty percent of mental illness begins by 14 years of age and 75 percent by 24 years of age, yet many children and young adults experiencing mental illness are not able to access services due to affordability and lack of providers. Mental illness often becomes harder to treat the longer that it is left untreated. Prevention and early intervention efforts have been shown to be both effective at treating various mental illnesses and cost-effective to society at large, with every dollar invested returning between \$2 and \$10 in savings related to health care, the justice system, and reduced productivity.

SB 1004 (Wiener) would fund proven mental illness prevention and early intervention efforts across the state by requiring counties to spend Mental Health Services Act funds on early psychosis and mood disorder detection and intervention; college mental health outreach, engagement, and service delivery; or childhood trauma prevention and early intervention. This would increase the effectiveness of mental health efforts in California and would greatly benefit the many California children and youth who experience mental health issues.

Pediatrician members of AAP California Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4 across the state strongly support SB 1004 (Wiener) and urge your signature. 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 black ink that reads "Kris E. Calvin".

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

cc: Honorable Scott Wiener and Honorable John Moorlach, authors  
Members of the Senate Health Committee  
AAP-CA Leadership; Lobbyist Lydia Bourne