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April 1, 2018

Honorable Nancy Skinner  
Chair, Senate Public Safety Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2031  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 1092 (Anderson): Firearms: silencers**  
**AAP-CA Position: Oppose**

Dear Chair Skinner:

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 California pediatricians, respectfully opposes proposed legislation SB 1092 (Anderson), which would legalize silencers for firearms greater than 16 inches in length.

We respect the author's intention to make silencers more accessible to hunters who wish to use these devices to diminish unwanted noise. However, silencers are simply too dangerous to allow in general circulation. In the event of a shooting, the distinctive sound of gunfire serves to warn bystanders. Silencers muffle and distort this sound, which in turn makes it less likely that those nearby will recognize the sound of gunfire and react appropriately. Even a delay of a few seconds can mean the difference between life or death.

SB 1092 (Anderson) would put Californians, including children, in greater danger of injury or death as a result of gun violence. We thus respectfully oppose SB 1092. We hope to collaborate on other bills to benefit the health and wellbeing of children in the future.

Pediatrician members of AAP California Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4 across the state respectfully oppose proposed legislation SB 1092 (Anderson). Thank you for your public service and leadership on behalf of the health and wellbeing of children, youth, and families in California.

Sincerely,

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

cc: Honorable Joel Anderson, author  
Members of the Senate Public Safety Committee  
AAP-CA Leadership; Lobbyist Lydia Bourne