



March 22, 2017

The Honorable Ricardo Lara
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) 651-4933

SB 258 (Lara): Cleaning Product Right to Know Act
AAP-CA Position: SUPPORT

Dear Senator Lara:

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing the 5,000 board-certified pediatrician members of all four California AAP regional chapters statewide, strongly supports your proposed legislation SB 258 (Lara). This bill would require that cleaning product manufacturers list their ingredients on product labels and online.

Many cleaning products include ingredients that are known or suspected to be unsafe, especially in large quantities or with repeated exposure. Parents must take special cautions when introducing toxic substances into the home: children are especially susceptible to the effects of toxic chemicals, and young children are also prone to accidentally ingest cleaning products mistaken for food or candy. Moreover, many children suffer from allergies or sensitivities to certain substances that are commonly used in cleaning products. However, it is very difficult for parents to shield their children from exposure to these substances when manufacturers routinely do not disclose the ingredients in their products. Low-income families and children are disproportionately affected: whereas many who would prefer to avoid certain chemicals can afford to shop around or choose products that voluntarily list their ingredients, this is often not possible on a tight budget.

SB 258 (Lara) would ensure that California families know what they are bringing into their home by requiring that cleaning product manufacturers list all ingredients both on their product labels and online. This would help protect California children from the effects of toxic chemicals, and would also be especially beneficial to those California children who suffer from allergies, sensitivities, and other medical issues that require special care.

California pediatricians strongly support SB 258 (Lara). We 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, consisting of a stylized, cursive name followed by the letters "MD".

Yasuko Fukuda, M.D., Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Vice Chair, District IX of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Executive Board, American Academy of Pediatrics, California

CC: Kris Calvin, CEO; AAP-CA Leadership; Lydia Bourne