



June 26, 2017

The Honorable Jim Wood
Chair, Assembly Health Committee
State Capitol, Room 6005
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 4 (Mendoza): Medi-Cal: county organized health system: County of Orange.
AAP-CA Position: SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Wood:

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 board-certified California pediatricians, strongly supports proposed legislation SB 4 (Mendoza). This bill would codify the existing CalOptima Board composition prescribed in the Orange County Health Authority Ordinance that reflects a balance of public, consumer, and provider representatives.

CalOptima is responsible for coordinating healthcare for Orange County's 800,000 Medi-Cal members by arranging care through 7,200 primary care and specialist physicians, 30 hospitals, and 35 community health centers. This successful partnership of providers and caregivers has been recognized as CalOptima has been named California's top-rated Medi-Cal plan by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) the last three years. This is due to the engagement and consistent quality of healthcare provided by the physicians, clinics, and hospitals.

SB 4 (Mendoza) would ensure that current and future Boards may continue their leadership to expand access to high-quality care, promote the alignment of providers, and extend transparency between CalOptima, its members, providers and the public-at-large.

California pediatricians urge an AYE vote on SB 4 (Mendoza). We thank you for your service on behalf of the children and families of California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Ball".

Eric Ball, M.D., Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics

President, California Chapter 4 of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Executive Board, American Academy of Pediatrics, California

CC: Kris Calvin, CEO; AAP-CA Leadership; Lydia Bourne; The Honorable Tony Mendoza