



American Academy of Pediatrics, California
5000 Campus Drive Newport Beach, CA 92660
Phone (626) 796-1632 | **Fax** (626) 628-3382
Email: office@aap-ca.org | www.AAP-CA.org

May 11, 2020

Assembly Member Jim Wood, Chair
Assembly Committee on Health
Capitol Office, Room 6005
P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249-0002

RE: AB 2203 (Nazarian): Insulin Cost-Sharing Cap
AAP-CA Position: Support

Dear Chair Wood,

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA) representing the over 5,000 pediatrician members of California AAP Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4 statewide, strongly supports proposed legislation AB 2203 (Nazarian) as amended on May 4, 2020. This bill would prohibit health insurers and HMOs from imposing a copay greater than \$50 for a 30-day supply of insulin and no more than \$100 total per month.

The lives of children with Type 1 Diabetes depend on insulin. If an insulin-dependent person goes without insulin for as little as one day, they can begin to develop serious complications which could lead to death. Insulin can also be an important tool in maintaining appropriate blood glucose levels and reducing the risk of serious complications such as cardiovascular disease, blindness, amputation of the lower extremities, kidney disease and death for those with Type 2 Diabetes. The number of children and adolescents with diabetes has risen dramatically over the last 20 years.

The cost of insulin nearly tripled between 2002 and 2013, and there are no generic insulins on the market in the United States. In some cases, families have traveled to other countries to obtain the necessary medications for their child or have had to choose between paying other bills and making sure their child has access to medication.

AB 2203 (Nazarian) would ensure that the increasing number of diabetic children of California could obtain the medications on which their well-being depends.

Pediatricians across the state of California strongly support AB 2203 (Nazarian) and urge you to vote AYE. Thank you for your public service and leadership on behalf of the health and well-being of the children, youth, and families of California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kris E. Calvin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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

cc: AAP-CA Leadership

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California is the state-level advocacy organization of the four AAP California Chapters. Our mission is to promote the health and well-being of all children and youth in California and to support the professional needs of our California Chapter member pediatricians.

We are a 501(c)4 nonprofit legally incorporated in California.