



May 26, 2019

Senator Henry Stern
State Capitol, Room 5080
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 630 (Stern): Human trafficking
AAP-CA Position: Support

Dear Senator Stern:

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA) representing the over 5,000 board-certified pediatrician members of California AAP Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4 statewide, strongly supports your proposed legislation SB 630 to ensure that existing state laws do not inadvertently prevent localities from enacting ordinances to prevent human trafficking in the manner that would best address local factors and circumstances.

Human trafficking is among the most pressing human rights issues facing California today. Human trafficking has been estimated to be a \$32 billion per year global industry and as of 2012 California was one of the nation's top four destination states for trafficking victims. Of special concern to pediatricians are the many children, often those already living in extremely difficult circumstances, who fall victim to traffickers. It is essential that California take strong steps to protect children and fight human trafficking in the state.

In 2012, SB 1193 (Steinberg) mandated that certain businesses post notices to ensure victims have access to hotlines and resources to escape trafficking, and to better inform the public on the indicators of human trafficking. This bill was a significant first step in the fight against human trafficking. However, SB 1193 has been interpreted as creating a ceiling to the actions local government can require for human trafficking notices. SB 630 would make sure that state laws do not inadvertently prevent localities from enacting ordinances related to the prevention of human trafficking by clarifying that state laws do not preempt these ordinances. This would assure California localities that they are able to take the steps they need to take to fight human trafficking as it is being perpetrated in their area.

Pediatricians across the state of California strongly support your proposed legislation SB 630. 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".

Kris Calvin
Chief Executive Officer
American Academy of Pediatrics, California

Cc: AAP-CA Leadership; AAPCA Advocate Lydia Bourne