

March 6, 2019

Assembly Member Reginald Byron Jones-Sawyer Sr,
Legislative Office Building
1020 N Street, Room 111
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 164 (Cervantes) Firearms: prohibited persons
AAP-CA Position: Support

Dear Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer,

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 proposed legislation AB 164 (Cervantes) to expand the scope of existing law to a person who is prohibited from purchasing or possessing a firearm in any jurisdiction by a valid temporary restraining order, injunction, or protective order issued in another jurisdiction.

Gun violence is among the greatest public health crises facing children and youth. Nearly 7,000 children younger than 18 are killed or wounded by gunshots each year. Firearm-related deaths are the third leading cause of death for children ages 1 to 17, outpaced only by death from car crashes and drownings and illnesses like cancer.

It is imperative that we do all within our power to reduce gun violence. Dr. Colleen Kraft, President of the American Academy of Pediatrics states, “We can start by working to advance meaningful legislation that keeps children safe. The American Academy of Pediatrics advocates for stronger state and federal gun laws that protect children.”

AB 164 (Cervantes) would keep firearms out of the hands of potentially dangerous individuals by prohibiting anyone from any jurisdiction with a valid temporary restraining order, injunction, or protective order from purchasing or possessing a firearm.

Pediatrician members of AAP California Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4 statewide strongly support proposed legislation and urge you to vote AYE on AB 164 (Cervantes). Thank you for your public service and leadership on behalf of the health and well-being of children, youth, and families in California.

Sincerely,



Katherine Williamson, MD
Member, Governing Board
American Academy of Pediatrics, California

cc: Kris Calvin; AAP-CA Leadership; Lobbyist Lydia Bourne; Committee on Public Safety