

March 19, 2019

Assembly Member Patrick O'Donnell  
Chair, Committee on Education  
1020 N Street, Room 159  
Sacramento, California 95814

**RE: AB 1214 (Melendez): Teacher credentialing; renewal: cardiopulmonary resuscitation.**  
**AAP-CA Position: Support**

Dear Assembly Member O'Donnell:

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 1214 (Melendez) requiring school districts to offer CPR training every two years. Further, each California teacher will need to have a valid CPR certification every time they renew their teaching credentials.

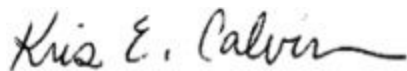
Full CPR certification requires that the training be repeated every two years. This is intended to keep the trainee's skills fresh and present in their minds so that they can perform the needed intervention properly, and have confidence during a crisis.

Currently, California teachers are only required to complete CPR a single time. This clearly does not serve students who might experience cardiac arrest three, ten, or twenty years after their teacher completes the lone required training. While cardiac arrest is rarer in children than adults, approximately 6,000 children experience out-of-hospital cardiac arrest every year, many in school settings.

AB 1214 (Melendez) would align state law with evidence-based recommendations by requiring that all California teachers complete CPR training every two years, potentially saving children's lives.

Pediatricians across the state of California urge an AYE vote on AB 1214 (Melendez). 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,



Kris Calvin  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Academy of Pediatrics, California

cc: The Honorable Melissa Melendez; AAP-CA Leadership