



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

July 28, 2020

Senator Richard Pan
State Capitol, Room 5114
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 275 (Pan) Health Care and Essential Workers Protection Act
AAP-CA Position SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Pan,

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 your proposed legislation SB 275 as amended on July 27, 2020, which would require the State Department of Public Health to establish a personal protective equipment (PPE) stockpile to ensure an adequate supply of PPE for health care workers and essential workers and would require the stockpile to be at least sufficient for a 90-day pandemic or other health emergency.

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed many flaws in supply chains for critical PPE, leaving health care and essential workers without the protection they need to do their jobs safely. According to Kaiser Health News, nearly 600 health care workers had died of COVID-19 by early June of this year.¹ Having frontline workers be exposed to the virus and then possibly passing it on to patients, families, and the general public has had devastating consequences.

We were not adequately prepared for this pandemic. We must be sure we are prepared for the next one. The creation of a statewide stockpile of PPE in the event of another pandemic or other health emergency is vital to the health and safety of all Californians. SB 275 would ensure California is ready for whatever public health crises come our way with adequate protection for our health care and other essential workers.

Pediatricians across the state strongly support SB 275. Thank you for your public service and leadership on behalf of the health and wellbeing of children, youth, and families in California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacques-Emmanuel Corriveau".

Jacques-Emmanuel Corriveau, MD FAAP
Chair, State Government Affairs Committee
American Academy of Pediatrics, California

Cc: Kris Calvin, CEO AAP-CA, AAP Leadership

1

<https://khn.org/news/exclusive-investigation-nearly-600-and-counting-us-health-workers-have-died-of-covid-19/>

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.