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July 22, 2020

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

RE: SB 483 (Pan) Department of Motor Vehicles: records: confidentiality
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 support SB 483 as amended in the Assembly on July 27, 2020, which would add public health officers to a list of certain public employees and officials whose home addresses are prohibited from disclosure in the records of the DMV.

In the last few months, public comment in local meetings has escalated from disagreeing with a health officer order to insulting the health officer personally to sharing the home addresses of local health officers publicly and holding protests outside their family homes with the goal of intimidating them. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in California, eight local health officials and two state health officials have resigned. Public comment is an important part of policy making, but personal attacks are not beneficial and good public health policy decisions should be evidence-based and not made out of fear for self or family.

One step we can take to protect our valuable and dedicated public servants and the local institutional knowledge they possess is to prohibit the disclosure of the home addresses of public health officers as we do for certain other public employees and officials.

Pediatricians across the state strongly support SB 483. 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 cursive script that reads "Kris E. Calvin".

Kris Calvin, CEO
American Academy of Pediatrics, California

Cc: AAP Leadership