

April 12, 2021

The Honorable Blanca Rubio  
State Capitol P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0048

**RE: AB 1046 (Rubio) Nurse-Family Partnership program.**  
**AAP-CA Position: SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymember Rubio,

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA) representing over 3,000 pediatrician members strongly supports AB 1046 as introduced on February 18, 2021, which would require California's Health and Human Services Agency to bring together stakeholders to identify ways to draw down Medi-Cal funding for evidence-based home visiting services.

In Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) programs, specially-trained individuals visit families to provide support services in the home. According to a study published in *Prevention Science*, NFP programs will “reduce smoking during pregnancy, pregnancy complications, childhood injuries, and use of subsidized child care; improve language development, increase breast-feeding, and raise compliance with immunization schedules. They will eliminate the need for 4.8 million person-months of child Medicaid spending and reduce estimated spending on Medicaid, TANF, and food stamps by \$3.0 billion (present values in 2010 dollars).”<sup>1</sup>

Home visits are funded through a number of sources in California. It is possible that federal funds for this highly effective program are being left unused. Most of the families enrolled in home visiting receive their health care through Medi-Cal. To ensure that the NFP program receives the maximum funding possible, the state must identify all federal and nonfederal reimbursement possible and all the benefits and services that can be used as a funding match to draw down Medi-Cal funding to increase the number of families who receive these invaluable services.

AB 1046 (Rubio) would bring together the stakeholders most qualified to identify ways to draw down Medi-Cal funding for evidence-based home visiting services and help establish uniformity in the state's ability to draw down eligible Medi-Cal funding, including federal funding the state is not currently leveraging.

AAP-CA strongly supports AB 1046. Thank you for your public service and leadership on behalf of the health and wellbeing of children, youth, and families in California.

Sincerely,



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

cc: AAP Leadership

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4512284/>