

April 2, 2021

The Honorable Marc Levine  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849, Room 5135  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0010

**RE: AB 814 (Levine) Personal information: contact tracing.**  
**AAP-CA Position: SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymember Levine,

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA) representing over 3,000 pediatrician members strongly supports AB 814 as introduced on February 16, 2021, which would prohibit law enforcement officials from engaging in contact tracing and prohibit data collected for contact tracing purposes to be shared outside of a public health entity.

On March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a State of Emergency as a result of the COVID-19 virus. According to the state of California's COVID-19 Dashboard as of March 15, 2021, there have been 55,330 deaths and 3,528,795 total cases resulting from COVID-19 in California. One of the strategies being deployed to limit the transmission of COVID-19, is the use of contact tracing, which identifies COVID-19 positive individuals and those they may have been in close contact with, who are advised to self-quarantine – limiting the spread of the virus.

California is home to over 11 million immigrants, including an estimated 2 million undocumented immigrants. These individuals have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 leaving the children of these communities without support systems. In addition, this population is less likely to seek medical aid because of their immigration status. According to the CDC, hispanic or Latinos are four times as likely to be hospitalized than non-Hispanic white persons as a result of COVID-19. Immigrant communities and communities of color are also less likely to willingly interact with law enforcement officials, regardless of context. Successfully limiting the spread of the coronavirus will require all COVID-19 positive Californians to participate in contact tracing programs, including undocumented individuals. Ensuring that their personal information will be kept confidential and used only for contact tracing will help them feel confident and safe when sharing their statuses.

Pediatricians across the state strongly support AB 814. 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, M.D. FAAP  
Chair, State Government Affairs Committee  
American Academy of Pediatrics, California

cc: AAP Leadership