



## California District

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April 5, 2011

The Honorable Ed Hernandez  
California State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 4085  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### Re: SB 393, AAP-CA Position: COSPONSOR

Dear Senator Hernandez,

The California District of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP-CA), representing the over 5,000 board-certified pediatrician members of the four California AAP regional Chapters, is proud to be a cosponsor of your proposed legislation SB 393. This bill would establish the Patient-Centered Medical Home Act of 2011, which defines the “medical home” in California state law and ultimately aims to ensure that all California residents have access to high quality and patient-centered care.

As California pediatricians, we are deeply concerned with maintaining and increasing the quality care for pediatric populations, as they are our rising generation. We have often witnessed the detrimental effects the lack of a medical home presents for our patients. Without a medical home, children, especially those with complex medical conditions, are at significant risk of falling through the cracks and going without the essential care they need to maintain their health.

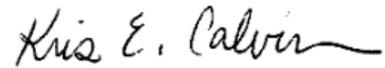
A medical home serves to provide coordinated health services such as preventative care, referrals for specialty care, and help in coordinating care across specialties. This bill would establish the medical home as a standard model for delivery of care that would improve quality and access for all patients and especially for vulnerable populations such as children.

In our experiences with established medical home models that currently exist, we have seen the positive impact of having a centralized hub for coordinated care. For example, we have all worked with patients with chronic, complex medical issues such as cerebral palsy or congenital heart conditions who have benefited from having a medical advocate to ensure that they receive access to the ongoing health services that their conditions require. This kind of coordination minimizes their need to seek more expensive and suboptimal care in emergency settings.

By establishing positive partnerships between families and providers, medical homes can provide the best care for children, utilize limited resources appropriately, and remain responsibly cognizant of health care costs.

California pediatricians applaud your commitment and leadership in promoting the health and well-being of California's children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kris E. Calvin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

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CEO, AAP-CA

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