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On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1598

As a parent of two young children and a pediatric healthcare provider, I strongly support coverage of proven preventive healthcare services such as all vaccines recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Patients and parents always have the option to decline vaccines, but having all recommended vaccines available for all families (including those who could not pay the cost out of pocket) is crucial for supporting the health of our communities and preventing severe diseases in those who choose to vaccinate. In particular, I am becoming extremely concerned for the health of young infants who are not yet old enough to receive the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine, who are now at increased risk of exposure to a deadly disease because of declining vaccination rates, a problem that will only worsen without required insurance coverage for these vaccines.