

August 29, 2014

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 357 (Pan) – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Brown,

On behalf of [ORGANIZATION] we respectfully request your signature on AB 357, which would ensure a strong Medi-Cal Children's Health Advisory Panel comprised of enrollee representatives, providers, and other experts.

[INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATION]

The Healthy Families Advisory Panel was a 15-member panel of stakeholders, including parents of children enrolled in Healthy Families, that advised the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board (MRMIB) on all policies, regulations, operations, and implementation of the Healthy Families Program; made recommendations that helped improve the quality of care for children in Healthy Families; and served as an important venue for parents of enrollees, providers, and other experts to discuss ways to improve the program.

In 2013, over 750,000 children were transferred from the Healthy Families Program to the Medi-Cal program. The legislation authorizing the transition of Healthy Families subscribers (AB 1494, Chapter 28, Statutes of 2012) also required a transfer of the Healthy Families Advisory Panel from MRMIB to DHCS. However, existing law (INS 12693.90), which defines the Healthy Families Advisory Panel, needs to be replaced with language that reflects the panel's new location and purpose.

AB 357 would rename the Healthy Families Advisory Panel the Medi-Cal Children's Health Advisory Panel; maintain a combination of enrollee representatives, providers, and other experts; and move the body's advisory capacity from MRMIB to DHCS. We understand that DHCS is undertaking an effort to restructure stakeholder groups; AB 357 would help ensure the panel fits into a revamped advisory system while maintaining its effectiveness in the interim. We were pleased that Legislature concurred to provide overwhelming bipartisan support for the bill in both houses.

With more than half of all California children enrolled in Medi-Cal, AB 357 is an important piece of legislation to ensure that this effective body of experts continues in its advisory capacity and provides a venue to address issues affecting children's access to health care services in Medi-Cal.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

cc: Honorable Dr. Richard Pan, author  
Gareth Elliott, Legislative Secretary  
Lark Park, Deputy Legislative Secretary