

## 2016 CAFP Policy Proposal/Resolution Form

Use this form to submit your policy proposals to the CAFP All Member Advocacy Meeting or submit *at any time during the year* to the CAFP Board of Directors. Proposals may include the endorsement of a county chapter or signatures from Active members but they are not required. Members are encouraged to follow the format below to enable the Academy to engage in knowledge-based decision making.

### RESOLUTION

DATE: December 10, 2015

**TITLE: Support Mandatory Immunizations for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and Elimination of Personal Belief Exemptions Prior to a Child's Entry into School**<sup>1,2</sup>

**Introduced by:** Amruti Borad

**Endorsed by\*:** N/A (\*Endorsement not required)

WHEREAS, mandatory vaccinations against the most common vaccine-preventable diseases prior to admission to elementary or secondary schools, daycares, and development centers results in herd immunity, thus protecting those who are unable to receive vaccinations secondary to age or other medical exemptions.<sup>1,3</sup>

WHEREAS, the aforementioned mandatory vaccinations reduce the morbidity and mortality of vaccine preventable diseases.<sup>1,3</sup>

WHEREAS, the American Medical Association (AMA) supports elimination of personal belief exemptions, but supports medical exemptions determined by a healthcare professional.<sup>4</sup>

WHEREAS, although vaccines have side effects, the most common side effects are mild and the risk of a rare, severe side effect is safer than contracting a vaccine-preventable disease.<sup>1,5,6</sup>

WHEREAS, in 1996, "ACIP, in collaboration with partner organizations, recommended a routine vaccination visit at age 11 to 12 years of age to reduce adolescent morbidity associated with vaccine-preventable diseases and to improve vaccine coverage for adolescents."<sup>7,8</sup>

RESOLVED, that the AAFP support a policy that requires mandatory immunization of children entering any elementary school, nursery school, daycare center, or development center, against multiple vaccine preventable diseases, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the AAFP support a policy that eliminates vaccine personal belief exemptions and only accepts medical exemptions per the discretion of a medical health professional, and be it further

RESOLVED, submit a resolution that promotes the "consistent enforcement, ease of obtaining vaccinations relative to that of obtaining nonmedical exemptions, and adequacy of financial, logistical, and community support for implementation" of this policy.<sup>3</sup>

Speaker's Notes: Written Separately.

Fiscal Note:

**(NOT REQUIRED BUT REQUESTED):**

**1) PROBLEM STATEMENT: What specific practice problem does this resolution seek to solve, or, if this resolution pertains to a proposed new CAFP policy or change of policy, what issue does it seek to address?**

This resolution is seeking to create herd immunity against multiple vaccine preventable childhood diseases. It is also seeking to end the parent refusal of vaccination of their children based on personal beliefs.

**2) PROBLEM UNIVERSE: Approximately how many CAFP members or members' patients are affected by this problem or proposed policy?**

Every member and every patient is affected by this given any contact with an unimmunized child should be considered a public health threat. However, this directly impacts any CAFP member and any patient of a CAFP member who has children that are not homeschooled.

**3) WHAT SPECIFIC SOLUTION ARE YOU PROPOSING TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM OR POLICY, i.e., what action do you wish CAFP to take?**

I wish for CAFP to support all actions to put this policy into motion (perhaps strategy/funding to ensure the immunization program is enforced).

**I also wish for the CAFP to consider changes in the provisions listed below (#2)**

**4) WHAT EVIDENCE EXISTS TO: 1) INDICATE THAT A PROBLEM EXISTS; OR 2) THAT THERE IS NEED FOR A NEW OR REVISED POLICY?**

1. Disease outbreaks, mostly spread by unimmunized individuals indicates that a problem exists.

2. There are a few things I would revise within the most recent policy:

-Why should homeschooled individuals be exempt from this policy? They are still children who are going to interact with other children and thus can still spread disease.

-Why is it that personal belief exemptions written before Jan 1, 2016 are exempted from this policy until they reach the next grade level, as long as the child is not entering pre-school, kindergarten, 7<sup>th</sup> grade, or changing schools?

-Why is that the rule above applies until July 1, 2016 at which time no child can be admitted for the first time or advance to 7<sup>th</sup> grade unless they have received the immunizations required by this policy?

**5) PLEASE PROVIDE CITATIONS to support the existence of the problem and your proposed solution.**

1. Legislative Counsel's Digest. "Senate Bill NO. 277, Chapter 35: Public health: vaccinations."  
Available online at  
[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160SB277](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB277)

2. Brooks, Jon. "California Ends Personal Belief Exemptions for Vaccines." *KQED News*. June 2015. Available online at <http://ww2.kqed.org/stateofhealth/2015/06/29/bill-ending-vaccine-exemptions-passes-california-senate-moves-to-governors-desk/>.
3. The Community Guide. "Increasing Appropriate Vaccinations: Vaccination Requirements for Child Care, School, and College Attendance. *The Guide to Community Preventive Services*. June 2009. Available online at [http://www.thecommunityguide.org/vaccines/requirements\\_school.html](http://www.thecommunityguide.org/vaccines/requirements_school.html).
4. American Medical Association News Room. "AMA Supports Tighter Limitations on Immunization Opt Outs." American Medical Association. June 2015. Available online at <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/news/news/2015/2015-06-08-tighter-limitations-immunization-opt-outs.page>
5. Vaccine Education Center at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. "The Facts About Childhood Vaccines." *Q&A*. Vol. 5, Spring 2007.
6. "Talking with Parents about Vaccines for Infants: Strategies for Health Care Professionals." *CDC*. October 2010.
7. "Measles Cases and Outbreaks." *CDC*. 2015. Available online at <http://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html>.
8. Broder, K et al. "Preventing Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis Among Adolescents: Use of Tetanus Toxoid, Reduced Diphtheria Toxoid and Acellular Pertussis Vaccines." *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. March 2006. Available online at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/tr5503a1.htm>.