

June 16, 2015



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To: The Honorable Jim Beall, Chair
The Honorable Anthony Cannella, Vice Chair
Members, Senate Transportation and Housing Committee

From: Rex D. Frazier, President
Michael A. Gunning, Vice President
Kara Cross, General Counsel
Manolo P. Morales, Senior Legislative Advocate

Re: AB 53 (Garcia, C) Vehicles: Child Safety Seats
Amended April 14, 2015

Senate Transportation and Housing Committee Hearing- June 23, 2015

PIFC Position: Support

The Personal Insurance Federation of California, representing seven of the nation's largest insurance companies (State Farm, Farmers, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Progressive, Allstate, Mercury and Nationwide) who collectively write a majority of the personal line auto and home insurance in California, **supports AB 53: Vehicles: Child Safety Seats by Assemblymember Garcia.**

AB 53 would require children under 2 years of age ride in a rear-facing car-seat consistent with the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) guidelines. As the IIHS notes, children are much safer than they used to be and these improvements can be made even greater when appropriate child safety seats are utilized.

In addition to always choosing the right restraint for the child's age and size, the IIHS recommends that "All infants and toddlers should ride rear-facing until they are 2 years old". This bill would ensure that children under 2 are as safe as the most recent research recommends.

PIFC and its member companies have a long standing record of supporting sound safety measures that serve to reduce injuries and enhance public safety pertaining to safety laws.

PIFC supports AB 53 Vehicles: Child Safety Seats by Assemblymember Cristina Garcia and urges your "aye" vote. If you have any questions regarding PIFC's position, please contact Manolo P. Morales at (916) 442-6646.

cc: Assemblymember Cristina Garcia, Author
Erin Riches, Principal Consultant, Senate Transportation and Housing Committee
Ted Morley, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus
Camille Wagner, Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Governor
Robert Herrell, Legislative Director, California Department of Insurance