



May 9, 2021

The Honorable Chris Holden
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 5132
Sacramento, CA 95814
VIA EMAIL

WPRA Support of AB 768

Dear Assemblymember Holden –

The West Pasadena Residents' Association supports your bill **AB 768**, "School Safety: Aquatic and Pool Safety Program: Model Policy", which would establish the Aquatic and Pool Safety Program to create and program updated pool safety education and measures, in hopes of reducing the tragedies of infant and child drownings.

We were shocked to learn that drownings are the number one injury-related cause of death for children age one to four, and second for children under 14; that many more are injured; that children of color, who often cannot swim and lack basic water safety instruction are over-represented in these statistics; and that these terrible losses are largely preventable using proven approaches and models.

AB 768 would require state agencies to develop model swimming pool and waterway policy and programs for use by local educational agencies and other organizations. Along with the good works of the Meow Meow Foundation and the many people who have rallied to this cause, we believe your proposed legislation truly would be a life-saving contribution to child safety.

Thank you for your attention to and assistance with this critical safety issue for our children.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Beal".

Dan Beal
President
For the WPRA Board of Directors

The WPRA is an all-volunteer organization dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in southwest Pasadena. We represent 7,000 households, including 1,000 paid members.

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