



September 11, 2006

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor, State of California  
Office of the Governor, State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1223 (Scott) – Signature Request

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

The California Association of School Psychologists urges you to sign SB 1223 (Scott). This legislation would require health care service plans and health insurers to provide coverage up to \$1,000 for hearing aids to all enrollees, subscribers, and insured that are under 18 years of age.

Students who do not hear well are not able to learn to the best of their abilities and frequently fall behind in their classrooms. With the emphasis on quality classroom instruction and passage of the state exit exam – it is critical that the lack of a hearing aid does not get in the way of an otherwise promising student.

School psychologists often see students that are recommended for a special education assessment who could improve their classroom performance with the use of a hearing aid. Unfortunately, the cost of hearing aides can be prohibitive and many families are unable to afford them without some assistance, leaving many students at a disadvantage.

We urge your signature of SB 1223.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Fisher  
Executive Director