



March 14, 2025

The Honorable Lori Wilson  
Chair, Assembly Committee on Transportation  
1021 O Street, Room 1100  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT: AB 435 (Wilson) – SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymember Wilson:

Car crashes are a leading yet preventable cause of injury and death among children. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, car seats and booster seats provide crucial protection for infants and children in a motor vehicle crash, yet these crashes are a top cause of death for children ages 1 to 13.

California hospitals play an important role in educating parents about child passenger safety, helping to ensure they have the knowledge and resources to keep their children safe.

**That's why the California Hospital Association (CHA), on behalf of more than 400 hospitals and health systems, supports Assembly Bill (AB) 435 — a bill that would strengthen passenger safety laws by requiring that children remain in booster seats until at least age 10 unless they pass a safety test and raising the minimum age for front-seat passengers to 13.**

Current law requires hospitals, clinics, and birthing centers to, at the time of discharge, provide education on child passenger safety laws, including restraint systems, seat belts, and rear seat requirements for children under 8. AB 435 would raise the age requirement to include children under 10, reinforcing the importance of proper child passenger restraint systems and aligning with best safety practices.

By ensuring that families receive clear guidance on child passenger safety, AB 435 will help prevent unnecessary injuries, save lives, and improve child safety across California.

For these reasons, CHA supports AB 435, and we thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vanessa Gonzalez".

Vanessa Gonzalez  
Vice President, State Advocacy

cc: The Honorable Lori Wilson  
The Honorable Members of the Assembly Committee on Transportation  
Aron Judd Mendiola, Principal Consultant, Assembly Committee on Transportation  
Ted Morely, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus