

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR KATHRYN BARGER

JUNE 8, 2021

**Support for AB 768 – School Safety: Aquatic and Pool Safety Program**

In June 2019, six-year old Roxie Forbes tragically drowned while attending a summer camp in Altadena. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), children ages 1 to 4 have the highest drowning rates among all age groups. Additionally, the CDC states that drowning is responsible for more deaths among children aged 1-4 than any other cause except congenital anomalies (birth defects).

Assemblymember Chris Holden has introduced AB 768, School safety: Aquatic and Pool Safety Program. This bill would make important strides towards ensuring education on the best practices for pool safety. Specifically, this bill would develop an aquatic and pool safety program to be made available for use at local educational agencies such as: school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools that serve pupils in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12.

Further this bill would require the pool safety policy to be age appropriate, address the needs of groups at a higher risk of drowning, and to include specified training materials. This bill would also require the educational agencies to adopt these new pool safety guidelines and for local educational agencies to review their aquatic and pool safety program every four years.

Los Angeles County should support this state-wide effort to provide pool safety programs to prevent death's like Roxie's.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:** instruct the Los Angeles County's Legislative Advocates in Sacramento to support AB 768.

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KB: jmb

MOTION

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