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July 7, 2020

Honorable Bill Dodd, Chair
Governmental Organization Committee
California State Senate
Capitol Building, Room 4032
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2730 (Cervantes) as amended May 4, 2020 – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Dodd:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 2730**. This bill will be heard before Senate Governmental Organization Committee on July 14, 2020.

AB 2730 requires a regional transit district, county transportation commission, or other local transportation authority that provides paratransit services to enter into an agreement with adjacent regional transit districts, county transportation commissions, or other local transportation authorities, upon request of the adjacent district, commission, or authority, for purposes of permitting the adjacent district, commission, or authority to borrow, for compensation, paratransit vehicles and drivers in the event of an emergency that requires the evacuation and relocation of the access and functional needs population in the jurisdiction or service area of the adjacent district, commission, or authority.

As the most recent California wildfires have demonstrated, there is a critical need for effective evacuation plans that must include all members of the communities, including persons with disabilities and the elderly. It is critical to leverage the availability of transportation that can effectively and

efficiently provide services to the functional needs population. AB 2730 requires agreements to ensure that a disaster impacted county can call upon other local transportation authorities to make available paratransit vehicles from adjacent authorities to assist in an evacuation. This bill will improve the capacity of vehicles to assist the functional needs population in evacuating in a disaster.

For these reasons, DRC supports this bill. Please contact me if you have any questions about our position or if I can provide any further information.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Curtis Child". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Curtis" and last name "Child" clearly distinguishable.

Curtis Child
Legislative Director
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Members, Senate Governmental Organization
Committee
Honorable Sabrina Cervantes, California State Assembly
Dulce Ramirez, Legislative Aide, Office of Assembly Member
Cervantes
Richard Paul, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus