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June 14, 2021

Honorable Richard Pan
Chair, Senate Health Committee
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2191
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 4 (ARAMBULA) as introduced December 7, 2020 - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Gonzalez:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 4 which would** expand full-scope Medi-Cal to all income-eligible adults, regardless of immigration status.

Undocumented and uninsured Californians live sicker, die younger, and are one emergency away from financial ruin because they do not have access to comprehensive health coverage. Under current law, low-income undocumented adults are eligible for emergency-only Medi-Cal but not for primary or preventive care offered through full-scope Medi-Cal. Though some California counties provide some care to undocumented adults through their safety-net systems, many do not. This reality has tremendous health and economic impacts on families and our state where 1 in 6 of all California children have at least one undocumented parent.⁴ Our health care system works better when all California residents, regardless of immigration status, have access to health care.

This bill provides comprehensive, full-scope Medi-Cal to low-income undocumented adults whose incomes are at or below 138% of the federal poverty level and removes immigration status as an eligibility exclusion.

Immigrants work and contribute to California's economic vitality through their labor and taxes; yet when it comes to social services, they are excluded. It is time we recognize the economic contributions immigrant communities have made to the state and remove exclusions to vital healthcare access.

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.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sawait Seyoum". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sawait Seyoum
Senior Legislative Advocate
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Members, Senate Health Committee
Honorable Joaquin Arambula, California State Assembly
Aroosa Ahmed, Legislative Aide, Office of Arambula