

LEGISLATION & COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

1831 K Street

Sacramento, CA 95811-4114

Tel: (916) 504-5800

TTY: (800) 719-5798

Intake Line: (800) 776-5746 Fax: (916) 504-5807

www.disabilityrightsca.org

April 1, 2021

Honorable Evan Low Chair, Business and Professions Committee California State Assembly 1020 N Street, Room 379 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 435 (MULLIN) as introduced March 11, 2021 - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Low:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 435.** This bill is scheduled for hearing before Assembly Business and Professions Committee on April 6, 2021.

Current law requires that a licensed audiologist, upon the consummation of the sale of a hearing aid to deliver to a purchaser have specified information, including the address, office hours and available written warranty.

AB 435 would require that written notice be given to the purchaser, which explains that the hearing aid can only be serviced in specific facilities and locations. The written notice would then have to be signed by the purchaser before the sale.

The deaf and hard of hearing community often depend on assistive technology, such as hearing aids to navigate their daily life. It is crucial that they have hearing technology that is dependable with a process that is consumer friendly and dependable. Receiving notice and detailed information regarding the locations where the hearing aids can be serviced

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is crucial to the community. In some cases, the deaf individual can be a young child or an older, and protecting those communities by ensuring that they will receive adequate service for their hearing aids is important.

For these reasons, DRC supports AB 435. Please contact me if you have any questions about our position or if I can provide any further information.

Sincerely,

Eric Harris

Director of Public Policy

Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Members, Assembly Business and Professions Committee

Honorable Kevin Mullin, California State Assembly

Meegen Murray, Legislative Director, Office of Kevin Mullin