



**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC
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July 10, 2018

Honorable Anthony J. Portantino
Chair, Appropriations Committee
California State Senate
Capitol Building, Room 3086
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1136 (EGGMAN) as amended July 2, 2018 – SUPPORT
[Revised Letter]**

Dear Senator Portantino:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 1136**. This bill is scheduled for hearing before the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 6, 2018.

AB 1136 Requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to develop and submit a proposal to solicit a 21st Century Cures Act federal grant to develop a real-time, internet-based database to help identify and designate facilities with available beds for the treatment of individuals experiencing a mental health or substance use disorder crisis. A Web-based bed registry would improve mental health service access by getting patients who are dealing with mental health crises to the appropriate professionals more quickly, and streamlining communication to reduce patient waiting time. The inclusion of other community mental health and SUD treatment providers will also help psychiatric facilities find appropriate placements when patients are ready for a lower level of care. This bill demonstrates California's dedication to improving access to mental health services while leveraging federal dollars to maximize the benefit to the state.

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 Appropriations Committee
Samantha Lui, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee
Honorable Susan Eggman, California State Assembly
Michelle Teran, Legislative Assistant, Office of Assembly Member
Eggman
Lisa Murawski, Principal Consultant, Assembly Appropriations
Committee
Joe Parra, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus Committee
Randall Hagar, Director of Government Affairs, California Psychiatric
Association
Adrienne Shilton, Government Affairs Director, Steinberg Institute