



**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC  
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May 2, 2017

Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher  
Chair, Appropriations Committee  
California State Assembly  
Capitol Building, Room 2114  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1375 (DABABNEH) – SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports** AB 1375.

This bill would require the Department of Social Services (DSS) to create and maintain a database and post it on its website with a list of Aid to Families with Dependent Children Foster Care (AFDC FC) program placement sites with a daily census of available beds and a comprehensive list of services provided by the facility based on reports from licensed foster family agencies reporting. The posted information would allow county child welfare departments and county probation departments to view the information for the purpose of placing children, youth, dependents, and wards in AFDC FC placement settings if the placing agency is unable to timely place the individual in a foster family home or a resource family home.

This bill would also require a placing agency, within 10 calendar days of making a change in placement of a dependent child or youth, a non-minor dependent, or a ward, to provide DSS the reason or reasons for the change in placement. DSS would also be required to create and maintain a

database on its website that would track monthly the number of, and the reasons for, the changes in placement.

The challenges of placing foster youth have been well-documented. The lack of available homes, the special medical and psychological needs of many children and youth, and the existence and severity of behavioral problems all compound the placement problem. As a result, placements are often made in unsuitable homes or facilities and multiple placements become commonplace to the detriment of the children and youth.

AB 1375 will give county placing agencies data and information to make the most appropriate and effective placements. It will also provide extremely valuable information on placement changes and the reasons for those changes. Both will improve the outcomes for foster children and youth.

For these reasons, we support this bill. Please contact me if you have any questions about our position on this bill.

Sincerely,

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 Matthew Dababneh, California State Assembly  
Daniel Okenfuss, Legislative Director, Office of Assembly Member  
Dababneh  
Honorable Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Jennifer Swenson, Principal Consultant, Assembly Appropriations  
Committee  
Brian Capra, Public Counsel