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September 6, 2018

Honorable Jerry Brown  
Governor of California  
Capitol Building, 1st Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1547 (QUIRK-SILVA) as amended August 24, 2018 – REQUEST  
FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Brown:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 1547 and requests your signature on this important measure.**

Existing law establishes the Capital Access Loan Program. The Capital Access Loan Program includes the Small Business Capital Access Loan Program (ADA Program) to assist small businesses in financing the costs of projects that alter or retrofit existing small business facilities to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Among its many provisions, AB 1547 makes changes to the ADA Program to improve participation and better target the specific kinds of small businesses intended to benefit from the program. The measure expands the definition of “small business” from 15 or fewer full-time employees or that has less than \$5,000,000 in total gross annual income from all sources, to a business with 30 or fewer full-time employees or that has less than \$5,000,000 in total gross annual income from all sources. Thus, this change expands the types of businesses that qualify for loan funding under the program to ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

DRC supports AB 1547 because the change in the definition of the small business size for purposes of loan eligibility advances disability access compliance. It is a proactive measure that provides additional resources and incentives to more businesses to comply with the law and promotes equal access for individuals with disabilities. As such, this provision in the bill is a step in the right direction and helps to protect the civil rights of individuals with disabilities.

DRC strongly encourages your signature on this measure. Please contact me if you have any questions about our position or if I can provide any further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Evelyn M. Abouhassan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Evelyn" and the last name "Abouhassan" clearly legible.

Evelyn Abouhassan  
Senior Legislative Advocate  
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Sharon Quirk-Silva, California State Assembly  
Toni Symonds, Chief Consultant, Assembly Jobs, Economic  
Development & the Economy Committee  
Ronda Paschal, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Legislative  
Affairs  
Nathan Bentham, Legislative Assistant, Office of Legislative Affairs