



**LEGISLATION AND
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 16, 2019

Honorable Eloise Gomez Reyes
Chair, Human Services Committee
California State Assembly
Capitol Building, Room 2175
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1643 (Garcia) as amended March 28, 2019 – SPONSOR &
SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Reyes:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **sponsors and supports AB 1643**. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Assembly Human Services Committee on April 23, 2019.

The Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act requires the State Department of Developmental Services to contract with regional centers to provide services and supports to individuals with developmental disabilities. Under existing law, the regional centers purchase needed services for individuals with developmental disabilities through approved service providers or arrange for those services through other publicly funded agencies. Existing law requires each regional center to post specified information on its internet website, including purchase of service policies.

This bill would additionally require each regional center to post on its internet website any other policies, guidelines, or assessment tools used to determine the service needs of a consumer, and would require the department to ensure that the purchase of service policies and other policies, guidelines, or assessment tools are available to the public on the

regional center's internet website.

Most regional centers do not publicly post internal guidelines, protocols, nor assessment tools used to determine consumers' service needs. To stimulate transparency and accountability of regional centers and the empowerment of consumers and their families, AB 1643 would ensure these internal guidelines, protocols and assessment tools are easily accessible online.

For these reasons, DRC sponsors and supports this bill. 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, appearing to read "Eric Harris". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "E" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Eric Harris
Legislative Advocate 2
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Members, Assembly Human Services Committee
Daphne Hunt, Chief Consultant, Assembly Human Services
Committee
Honorable Eduardo Garcia, California State Assembly
Lina Malova, Legislative Aide, Office of Assembly Member Garcia
Cyndi Hillery, Budget Director, Assembly Republican Caucus
Committee