



**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 1771 (BLOOM) as amended June 20, 2018 - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Portantino:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 1771**. This bill is being heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 6, 2018.

AB 1771 addresses the disparities in the regional housing needs assessment (RHNA) for similarly sized jurisdictions within the same region. The laws that currently ensure new housing is built, only protects projects on sites zoned for housing. Protection for housing projects is almost nonexistent in jurisdictions that receive a low RHNA number because they zone less land for housing.

This bill intends to affirmatively further fair housing by avoiding displacement and creating access to areas of high opportunity. It will also add additional data points to the assessment by including rates of overcrowding to create a more unbiased outcome. California is in the midst of an affordable housing crisis and low RHNA numbers restrict the amount of housing that certain jurisdictions can build. People with disabilities and other low-income individuals will benefit from a more equitable, data-driven distribution of the RHNA.

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
Mark McKenzi, Staff Director, Senate Appropriations Committee
Jennifer Swenson, Principal Consultant, Assembly Appropriations
Committee
Honorable Richard Bloom, California State Assembly
Guy Strahl, Legislative Director, Office of Assembly Member Bloom
Doug Yoakam, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus
Committee
Brian Augusta, California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation
Any Lawler, Western Center on Law and Poverty