



**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC
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June 19, 2018

Honorable Scott Wiener
Chair, Human Services Committee
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5100
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2043 (ARAMBULA) as amended May 25, 2018– SUPPORT

Dear Senator Wiener:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 2043**. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Senate Human Services Committee on June 26, 2018.

Children and caregivers in the child welfare system may be experiencing both short and long-term disabilities that may manifest in times of crises. During those times, supportive assistance can be very important to youth and caregivers to resolve conflicts, de-escalate or even direct them toward resources. This support helps maintain a supportive relationship between the youth and caregiver.

The approach in this bill provides that support by establishing a statewide, toll-free hotline available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for caregivers and youth who are experiencing emotional, behavioral or other difficulties and need immediate help by requiring counties to establish mobile response teams to provide face-to-face, in-home response. This is an important tool for supporting youth and caregivers.

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 Human Services Committee
Marisa Shea, Principal Consultant, Senate Human Services Committee
Daphne Hunt, Chief Consultant, Assembly Human Services Committee
Honorable Joaquin Arambula, California State Assembly
Marla Cowan, Legislative Director, Office of Assembly Member Arambula
Joe Parra, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus Committee
Mary Adèr, California Behavioral Health Directors Association
Frank Mecca, California Welfare Directors Association