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September 7, 2018

Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor of California
Capitol Building, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 2162 (CHIU) 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 2162 and requests your signature.**

The findings and declarations of this bill accurately and clearly state the urgent need to ensure, in an effort to address the current homelessness crisis, that the state must play a greater role in developing new housing. Particularly important is the creation of supportive housing to ensure that services and supports serve to keep those persons who are chronically homeless housed. The benefits of supportive housing run not only to the individuals but also to the state and local governments through reduced recidivism, lower health and mental health costs, and improved communities.

AB 2162 will allow developers to build supportive housing “by right” statewide beyond ways SB 35 streamlines affordable housing development. Specifically, it allows for streamlining for supportive housing in rural areas with little to no current supportive housing, commercially-zoned areas that allow for residential use, and property

previously occupied and now blighted. It would promote siting of supportive housing without developers having to battle the stigma of housing people with disabilities. And, it allows local jurisdictions to adopt streamlining without any adoption of local ordinances or changes to their process.

While local jurisdictions would be able to apply objective standards to reviewing an application to build supportive housing, streamlining supportive housing would allow non-profit developers to build supportive housing without the prolonged approval process typically required in these projects. It would allow developers and local jurisdictions to use public dollars more effectively and quickly. It would also encourage developers to create more housing for people experiencing homelessness.

For these reasons, DRC supports this bill and requests your signature. 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 David Chiu, California State Assembly
Lisa Engel, Chief Consultant, Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee
Graciela Castillo-Krings, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs
Nathan Bentham, Legislative Assistant, Office of Legislative Affairs
Sharon Rapport, Associate Director, Corporation for Supportive Housing
Christopher Martin, Legislative Advocate, Housing California