

LEGISLATION & PUBLIC INFORMATION UNIT

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California's protection & advocacy system

July 13, 2018

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

RE: AB 216 (GONZALEZ FLETCHER) as amended September 1, 2017 – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Brown:

Disability Rights California, a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 216 and requests your signature.**

This bill would clarify that the elections official is required to deliver to each qualified applicant a prepaid identification envelope for the return of the vote by mail ballot.

Many people with disabilities have difficulty getting to a post office when the ballot requires additional postage. Often, people with disabilities or seniors are on fixed incomes, with few resources to purchase stamps or travel to a post office or other location for stamps. This bill will help ensure people with disabilities can vote and have their voices heard.

For these reasons, we support this bill and request your signature. Please contact me if you have any questions about our position on this bill.

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Sincerely,

Swelyn M. Gboucharden

Evelyn Abouhassan Senior Legislative Advocate Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, California State Assembly Laurel Brodzinsky, Legislative Assistant, Office of Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher Legislative Affairs, Office of Governor Brown Melinda Grant, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Governor Brown Nathan Bentham, Legislative Assistant, Office of Governor Brown