



**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC
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August 2, 2017

Honorable Ricardo Lara
Chair, Appropriations Committee
California State Senate
Capitol Building, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 216 (GONZALEZ FLETCHER) – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Lara:

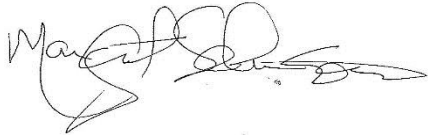
Disability Rights California, a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, supports AB 216. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 21, 2017.

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. Please contact me if you have any questions about our position on this bill.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Margaret Johnson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Margaret Johnson, Esq.
Advocacy Director
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, California State Assembly
Laurel Brodzinsky, Legislative Assistant, Office of Assembly Member
Gonzalez Fletcher
Honorable Members, Senate Appropriations Committee
Robert Ingenito, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee