

LEGISLATION & PUBLIC INFORMATION UNIT

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California's protection & advocacy system

September 6, 2018

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

RE: AB 2291 (CHIU) as amended June 13, 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 2291 and requests your signature on this important bill.**

AB 2291 requires local educational agencies to adopt, on or before December 31, 2019, procedures for preventing acts of bullying, including cyberbullying. The bill also requires the Department of Education to post, on its Internet Web site, the online training module developed by the department and an annually updated list of other available online training modules relating to bullying or bullying prevention. Pursuant to the bill, a school operated by a school district or county office of education and a charter school must annually provide the online training module to certificated school site employees and all other school site employees who have regular interaction with pupils.

Often, students with disabilities enter the educational environment and face bullying, harassment, and mistreatment. This measure is a positive step forward. It holds schools accountable, and ensures that they are safe for all students. Finally, it provides educators and other school staff with the tools AB 2291 (CHIU) as amended June 13, 2018 – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE Page 2 of 2

to ensure that all students, including students with disabilities, can learn without fear of harassment, discrimination, or intimidation.

For these reasons, DRC supports this bill and requests your signature on this measure. Please contact me if you have any questions about our position.

Sincerely,

Svelyn M. Wonhavan

Evelyn Abouhassan Senior Legislative Advocate Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable David Chiu, California State Assembly Kevin Hefner, Legislative Aide, Office of Assembly Member Chiu Jennifer Johnson, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs Samuel Miller, Legislative Assistant, Office of Legislative Affairs