



**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC  
INFORMATION UNIT**

1831 K Street  
Sacramento, CA 95811-4114  
Tel: (916) 504-5800  
TTY: (800) 719-5798  
Intake Line: (800) 776-5746  
Fax: (916) 504-5807  
[www.disabilityrightscalifornia.org](http://www.disabilityrightscalifornia.org)

June 29, 2018

Honorable Anthony Portantino  
Chair, Appropriations Committee  
California State Senate  
Capitol Building, Room 3086  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 2291 (CHIU) as amended June 13, 2018 – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Portantino:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 2291**. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee on July 2, 2018.

In its current form, 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 current version of the measure, 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 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. Please contact me if you have any questions about our position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Evelyn M. Abouhassan".

Evelyn Abouhassan  
Senior Legislative Advocate  
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable David Chiu, California State Assembly  
Kevin Hefner, Legislative Aide, Office of Assembly Member Chiu  
Honorable Members, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Lenin Del Castillo, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Roger Mackensen, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus  
Committee