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March 27, 2018

Honorable Jim Wood
Chair, Health Committee
California State Assembly
Capitol Building, Room 6005
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2316 (EGGMAN) – SUPPORT, as proposed to be amended

Dear Assembly Member Wood:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 2316** as proposed to be amended. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Assembly Health Committee on April 3, 2018.

As proposed to be amended, this bill will require that a contract between a patients' rights program (currently held by Disability Rights California), and the Department of State Hospitals and the State Department of Health Care Services specify that patients' rights advocacy materials be made available online. It further provides that a county shall certify that county patients' rights advocates have reviewed the training materials online within 90 days of employment and that a county shall keep a copy of the certification and share a copy with the Behavioral Health Planning Council.

We support the author and sponsor's intent to ensure that county patients' rights advocates review the training materials online within 90 days of their employment so that they may, promptly after employment, be better prepared to provide advocacy services. This bill is not intended to preempt attendance at the in-person Patients' Rights Advocacy Training program that is offered annually.

For these reasons, DRC supports this bill. 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 Susan Talamantes Eggman, California State Assembly
Logan Hess, Legislative Director, Office of Assembly Member
Eggman
Honorable Members, Assembly Health Committee
Paula Villescaz, Principal Consultant, Assembly Health Committee
Samuel Jain, Mental Health Advocacy Project