July 11, 2018

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

RE: AB 2317 (EGGMAN) as amended May 25, 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 2317. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 6, 2018.

This bill will extend the whistleblower protections and non-retaliation protections to independent contractors and contracted entities that are responsible for monitoring and receiving complaints as patient rights advocates, a position commonly held by independent contractors. They should have these protections because they perform advocacy work within government facilities. They should not be subject to retaliation for uncovering issues within their purview.
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,

[Signature]

Curtis Child
Legislative Director
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Susan Eggman, California State Assembly
    Sage Warren, Office of Assembly Member Eggman
    Honorable Members, Senate Appropriations Committee
    Shaun Naidu, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee
    Mike Petersen, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus Committee
    Samuel Jain, Law Foundation of Silicon Valley