



**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC
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April 12, 2018

Honorable Tony Thurmond
Chair, Labor and Employment Committee
California State Assembly
Capitol Building, Room 4005
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2317 (EGGMAN) – SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Thurmond:

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 Assembly Labor and Employment Committee on April 25, 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 in programs operated by a state and local government. This protection would cover 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Curtis Child". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Curtis" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Child".

Curtis Child
Legislative Director
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Susan Eggman, California State Assembly
Sage Warren, Office of Assembly Member Eggman
Honorable Members, Assembly Labor and Employment Committee
Megan Lane, Principal Consultant, Assembly Labor and Employment
Committee
Samuel Jain, Law Foundation of Silicon Valley