



**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC
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April 16, 2018

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

RE: AB 2331 (WEBER) – SUPPORT (AS AMENDED APRIL 11, 2018)

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 2331**. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Assembly Health Committee on April 17, 2018.

AB 2331 promotes efficient redeterminations for a Medi-Cal beneficiary who has a developmental disability and is eligible for regional center services. It does so by allowing the county to evaluate a regional consumer for annual Medi-Cal eligibility redetermination using information obtained by the regional centers from the consumer or family in the last 36 months without requesting additional information from the beneficiary (i.e. the consumer).

AB 2331 authorizes continued eligibility, until the county makes a specific determination based on facts, which clearly demonstrate that the consumer is no longer eligible for Medi-Cal benefits. Finally, AB 2331 requires the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), on a regular basis, to make available to the counties and the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) a list of identifying consumers receiving services at regional centers.

Disability Rights California strongly supports this measure as it streamlines the process for Medi-Cal eligibility redeterminations for individuals with developmental disabilities who are also eligible for regional center services. The redetermination process can be daunting, time consuming, and cumbersome for the individuals and families. Allowing for coordination and information sharing between regional centers and the counties, and DDS, the counties, and DHCS, to verify continued eligibility of the consumer makes sense and removes unnecessary barriers for these Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Please contact me if you have any questions about our position or if I can provide any further information.

Sincerely,

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

Evelyn Abouhassan
Senior Legislative Advocate
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Shirley Weber, California State Assembly
Harrison Himes, Intern, Office of Assembly Member Weber
Honorable Members, Assembly Health Committee
Rosielyn Pulmano, Chief Consultant, Assembly Health Committee
Peter Anderson, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
Committee