

LEGISLATION & PUBLIC INFORMATION UNIT

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March 19, 2018

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

RE: AB 2331 (WEBER) - SUPPORT

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 3, 2018.

AB 2331 changes current law to require a county to perform a redetermination every 36 months instead of every 12 months for a Medi-Cal beneficiary who has a developmental disability and is eligible for regional center services.

AB 2331 further requires the State Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to make available to the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) an updated list of individuals who meet this condition and requires DHCS to use the list, or any other information available, to verify eligibility every 12 months, until the county has to perform a redetermination.

Disability Rights California strongly supports this measure that lengthens the time period between Medi-Cal eligibility redeterminations for individuals with developmental disabilities who are also eligible for regional center services. An individual that is diagnosed with developmental disabilities and

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receives regional center services has a disability, that by definition, will last indefinitely. In this instance, a more frequent redetermination is time consuming and cumbersome for the individuals and families.

Allowing for coordination and information sharing between DDS and DHCS to verify continued eligibility between redeterminations allows for more efficiency and makes sense as it 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,

Evelyn Abouhassan

Senior Legislative Advocate

Disability Rights California

Suelyn M. Wonharan

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