June 8, 2018

Honorable Bill Dodd
Chair, Senate Governmental Organization
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4203
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2333 (WOOD) – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Dodd:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, supports AB 2333. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Senate Governmental Organization committee on June 12, 2018.

This bill recognizes, unfortunately through recent experience in California, that natural disasters can leave those who must deal with them, both as they are occurring and in their aftermath, with lasting traumatic effects. By establishing a behavioral health deputy director within the Office of Emergency Services the state can be better prepared to deal with these traumatic impacts and, importantly, plan for the known behavioral impacts that affect impacted communities. We applaud the author for recognizing the often-unrecognized behavioral health impacts on individuals and communities and the need to prepare for them.

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 Members, Senate Governmental Organization Committee
Brian Duke, Consultant, Senate Governmental Organization Committee
Kenton Stanhope, Associate Consultant, Assembly Governmental Organization Committee
Honorable Jim Wood, California State Assembly
Paula Villescaz, Principal Consultant, Assembly Health Committee