

LEGISLATION & PUBLIC INFORMATION UNIT

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California's protection & advocacy system

September 4, 2018

Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr. Governor of California Capitol Building, 1st Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2448 (GIPSON) as amended August 17, 2018 – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Brown:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 2448 and requests your signature**.

Foster youth in out-of-home placements and juveniles in local detention facilities may be cut off from Internet access for extended periods of time. AB 2448 would ensure youth in foster care and youth in juvenile detention facilities have access to computer technology and the Internet, which is crucial for these youth to have communication with their family and access to online school information or other educational materials. Technology is an essential component of modern communication and individuals without it are at a severe disadvantage.

We must give our most disadvantaged youth an opportunity to thrive. Providing Internet access to youth in foster care and in juvenile detention facilities is an important step in ensuring that they have access to a broader scope of information that technology provides. AB 2448 (GIPSON) as amended August 17, 2018 – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE Page 2 of 2

For these reasons, DRC supports AB 2448 and requests your signature. Please contact me if you have any questions about our position or if I can provide any further information.

Very truly yours,

Curtis Child Legislative Director Disability Rights California

 cc: Honorable Mike A. Gipson, California State Assembly Deepen Gagneja, Caucus Consultant, Office of Assembly Member Gipson
Donna Campbell, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs
Samuel Miller, Legislative Assistant, Office of Legislative Affairs
Lucy Carter, Policy Advocate, Youth Law Center