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June 5, 2018

Honorable Scott Wiener  
Chair, Human Services Committee  
California State Senate  
Capitol Building, Room 5100  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 2448 (GIPSON) as introduced – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Wiener:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 2448**. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Senate Human Services Committee.

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 in their communities. 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.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Curtis Child". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Curtis" and last name "Child" clearly distinguishable.

Curtis Child  
Legislative Director  
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Mike Gipson, California State Assembly  
Deepen Gagneja, Caucus Consultant, Office of Assembly Member  
Gipson  
Honorable Members, Senate Human Services Committee  
Marisa Shea, Principal Consultant, Senate Human Services  
Committee  
Mark Teemer, Jr., Committee Assistant, Senate Human Services  
Committee  
Joe Parra, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus Committee  
Lucy Carter, Youth Law Center