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March 27, 2018

Honorable Blanca Rubio
Chair, Human Services Committee
California State Assembly
Capitol Building, Room 5175
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2522 (CHU) – SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Rubio:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 2522**. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Assembly Human Services Committee on April 10, 2018.

AB 2522 restores many regional center services and supports that were cut when California was in a fiscal crisis and expands eligibility. Specifically, the measure: 1) repeals the suspension of social recreation and camping; 2) repeals the prohibition on purchasing experimental therapies and non-required services (such as child care, diapers, medical care, housing, genetic counseling, and educational services for children); 3) expands eligibility by changing the definition of “substantial disability” and “eligible infant or toddler,” allowing more individuals with developmental disabilities to access regional center services; and 4) eliminates the Family Cost Participation Fee to access regional center services.

Changes in the Lanterman Act to address the fiscal crisis in the State resulted in many individuals who need certain regional center services to no longer be eligible for them or be unable to access them. DRC supports this measure because it restores access to much-needed regional center

services and expands eligibility for clients who need the services to be fully integrated in the community. 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 that reads "Evelyn M. Abouhassan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Evelyn" and the last name "Abouhassan" clearly legible.

Evelyn Abouhassan
Senior Legislative Advocate
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Kansen Chu, California State Assembly
Katelin Van Deynze, Legislative Aide, Office of Assembly Member
Chu
Honorable Members, Assembly Human Services Committee
Kelsy Castillo, Senior Consultant, Assembly Human Services
Committee
Irene Frausto, Committee Secretary, Assembly Human Services
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