

LEGISLATION & PUBLIC INFORMATION UNIT

1831 K Street

Sacramento, CA 95811-4114

Tel: (916) 504-5800

TTY: (800) 719-5798 Intake Line: (800) 776-5746

Fax: (916) 504-5807 www.disabilityrightsca.org

June 28, 2018

Honorable Anthony Portantino Chair, Appropriations Committee California State Senate Capitol Building, Room 3086 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2540 (MULLIN) as amended April 18, 2018 - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Portantino:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 2540.** This bill will soon come before you for hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2540 authorizes school buildings or other public buildings to be used as vote centers beginning up to ten days before the election and continuing through election day. AB 2540 requires that any public building, including, but not limited to, a building operated by a school district, that is used as a polling place or a vote center, must comply with the accessibility requirements in the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.), the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 20901 et seq.), and the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).

In its current form, AB 2540 ensures that access requirements are met so that individuals with disabilities can fully, equally, and independently participate in elections.

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For these reasons, DRC supports this bill. Please contact me if you have any questions about our position on this bill.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Abouhassan

Senior Legislative Advocate Disability Rights California

Evelyn M. Wonhardan

cc: Honorable Kevin Mullin, California State Assembly
Laura Fitzgerald, Legislative Aide, Office of Assembly Member Mullin
Honorable Members, Senate Appropriations Committee
Robert Ingenito, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee
Cory Botts, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus Committee