



**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC
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April 18, 2018

Honorable Evan Low
Chair, Business and Professions Committee
California State Assembly
Legislative Office Building Room 383
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2994 (HOLDEN) – SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Low:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 2994**. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Assembly Business and Professions Committee on April 24, 2018.

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the California Building Standards Code require that specified buildings, structures, and facilities be accessible to, and usable by, persons with disabilities.

AB 2994 requires the Building Standards Commission, in the next triennial adoption process of the California Building Standards Code, to adopt standards requiring newly constructed public restrooms to be equipped with grab bars.

As proposed to be amended, the bill would also require a commercial place of public amusement, newly constructed on or after January 1, 2025, to include the installation and maintenance of an ambulatory accessible toilet compartment that meets the standards set forth in the 2016 Building Standards Code, as specified.

The inclusion of people with disabilities in community life and participation in activities such as sporting events, concerts, and other forms of entertainment enhances quality of life. To participate, however, requires adequate accessible restrooms. By including grab bars in newly constructed restrooms and an ambulatory accessible toilet compartment in buildings such as auditoriums, convention centers, exhibition halls, sports arenas, and theaters, people with disabilities are ensured access, and can take care of basic needs while also preventing injury and meeting their disability related needs.

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.

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 Chris Holden, California State Assembly
Victor Munoz, Senior Assistant, Office of Assembly Member Holden
Honorable Members, Assembly Business and Professions Committee
Danielle Sires, Committee Assistant, Assembly Business and
Professions Committee