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September 4, 2018

Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 3032 (FRAZIER) as amended June 19, 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 3032 and requests your signature.**

As recently noted in ACR 180, Chaptered on June 1, 2018, maternal mental health affects one in five women during or after pregnancy, but all women are at risk of suffering from maternal mental health disorders. Specifically, in California, one in five Californian mothers suffers from pregnancy-related depression. Additionally, less than 15 percent of identified cases of maternal mental health disorders are treated because of personal, structural, and systemic barriers within the health care system and untreated maternal mental health disorders significantly and negatively impact the short- and long-term health and wellbeing of affected women.

This bill would require a general acute care hospital or special hospital that has a perinatal unit to develop and implement, by January 1, 2020, a program to provide education and information to appropriate health care professionals and patients about maternal mental health conditions.

The bill would require the program to include education and information for postpartum women and families about maternal mental health conditions, posthospital treatment options, and community resources. Additionally, the program should include education and information for hospital employees regularly assigned to work in the perinatal unit, including, as appropriate, registered nurses and social workers, about maternal mental health conditions and any other service the hospital determines should be included in the program to provide optimal care to patients.

This bill is an important measure to foster providing necessary information on resources for those seeking maternal mental health services.

For these reasons, DRC supports this bill 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,

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 Jim Frazier, California State Assembly
Amber Garcia, Legislative Aide, Office of Assembly Member Frazier
Donna Campbell, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs
Samuel Miller, Legislative Assistant, Office of Legislative Affairs