



**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC  
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June 14, 2017

Honorable Jim Beall  
Chair, Transportation and Housing Committee  
California State Senate  
Capitol Building, Room 2082  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 381 (CALDERON) – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Beall:

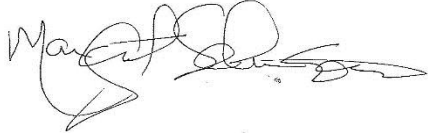
Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, supports AB 381. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee on June 20, 2017.

This bill would establish the Voluntary Deaf or Hard of Hearing Notification Program. The program would voluntarily allow a person at the time of registration of a vehicle indicate the driver may be deaf or hard of hearing and further allow a peace officer to access this information. The department would be prohibited from indicating, in any manner, the information provided on a driver's license, certificate of ownership, registration card, or license plate.

Some people who are deaf fear being targeted if everyone knows they are deaf. However, some people who are deaf or hard of hearing want a peace officer to know they are deaf. This bill will provide the information to peace officers without displaying the information to the public. This program is also voluntary, allowing people the choice of providing the information.

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

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Margaret Johnson', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Margaret Johnson, Esq.  
Advocacy Director  
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Ian Calderon, California State Assembly  
Denneile Ritter, Legislative Director, Office of Assembly Member  
Calderon  
Honorable Members, Senate Transportation and Housing Committee  
Erin Riches, Principal Consultant, Senate Transportation and  
Housing Committee