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September 13, 2019

Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of California
Capitol Building, 1st Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 59 (KALRA) – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Newsom:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 59 and requests your signature.**

This bill would direct a county elections official conducting an all-mailed ballot election to consider a vote center location on a public or private university or college campus. It would expand the definition of "public building" for purposes of that provision to include buildings owned or controlled by community college districts, the California State University, and the University of California, and it would also clarify that the University of California is encouraged, but not required, to comply with such a request.

College and university campuses in California are excellent places for voting access. College campuses in the state are generally accessible with necessary parking availability. Many college campuses and universities are centrally located in cities or neighborhoods, which are easy for many people with disabilities in the state to access. People with disabilities often use public transportation, and college campuses are accessible by public transportation as well. Increasing the number of accessible vote centers will increase civic engagement in the state and encourage more active

participation in the electoral process.

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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Harris". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent horizontal stroke at the end.

Eric Harris
Legislative Advocate 2
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Ash Kalra, California State Assembly
Ryan Guillen, Legislative Director, Office of Assembly Member Kalra
Joey Freeman, Chief Deputy Legislative Secretary for Policy, Office
of Legislative Affairs
Emily Patterson, Legislative Assistant, Office of Legislative Affairs