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June 9, 2017

Honorable Adrin Nazarian  
California State Assembly  
Capitol Building, Room 4146  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 727 (NAZARIAN) – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Hernandez:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, supports AB 727.

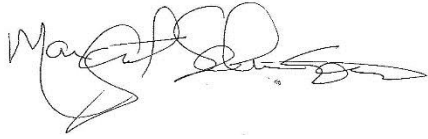
The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), an initiative measure enacted by the voters as Proposition 63 at the November 2, 2004, statewide general election, imposes a 1% tax on that portion of a taxpayer's taxable income that exceeds \$1,000,000 and requires deposit of the revenue from the tax in the Mental Health Services Fund. This bill would clarify that counties may spend MHSA moneys on housing assistance for people in the target populations, including seriously emotionally disturbed children or adolescents and adults or older adults who have a serious mental disorder.

Community-based housing options for people with mental health disabilities is critical. Without affordable, accessible housing options many people end up in more expensive options such as institutions or jails, or on the streets. Providing housing assistance to serve the target populations will result in better outcomes for children, adolescents and adults with mental health disabilities.

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 long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Margaret Johnson, Esq.  
Advocacy Director  
Disability Rights California

cc: Cynthia Alvarez, Legislative Director, Office of Assembly Member  
Nazarian