



**LEGISLATION &  
COMMUNICATIONS UNIT**  
1831 K Street  
Sacramento, CA 95811-4114  
Tel: (916) 504-5800  
TTY: (800) 719-5798  
Intake Line: (800) 776-5746  
Fax: (916) 504-5807  
[www.disabilityrightsca.org](http://www.disabilityrightsca.org)

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May 31, 2019

Honorable Connie Leyva  
Chair, Education Committee  
California State Senate  
Capitol Building, Room 4061  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 982 (Holden) as amended April 3, 2019 – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Leyva:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports AB 982**. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Senate Education Committee on June 5, 2019.

AB 982 allows for parents and guardians to request homework from a teacher. This ensures that students have the right to participate in class and not be denied their opportunity for quality education in California. Additionally, this bill helps students who may feel embarrassed about the suspension and gives reassurance to those seeking positive educational experiences.

DRC firmly believes in the rights of every person to a high-quality education. Since AB 982 grants students the ability to have more control over their academic career; it will serve to help bridge the divide between parents and teachers, and teachers and students. Parents and guardians can be certain that a student will not fall behind academically if a student is suspended. It is vital for students to have the right to homework if suspended.

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, appearing to read "Jimmy Fremgen". The signature is stylized with large, flowing loops and a long horizontal tail.

Jimmy Fremgen  
Senior Legislative Advocate  
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Members, Senate Education Committee  
Lynn Lorber, Chief Consultant, Senate Education Committee  
Marguerite Ries, Senior Consultant, Assembly Education Committee  
Honorable Chris Holden, California State Assembly  
Matthew Jones, Office of Assembly Member Holden  
Roger Mackensen, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus  
Committee