April 24, 2020

Honorable Ed Chau
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 5016
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: ACR 188 (CHAU) as introduced March 12, 2020 – SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Chau:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, supports ACR 188.

April 2, 2020 is World Autism Awareness Day, a day to show support for autism awareness. Autism is a lifelong disability that manifest itself during the first several years of a person’s life.

Individuals with autism deserve access to supports and services that reflect their needs, choices and cultural values. Disability Rights California (DRC) advocates to help individuals with autism avoid institutionalization and participate to the maximum extent possible in making decisions about their own lives. DRC works to assist individuals with autism obtain meaningful work at a competitive wage, access to healthcare in home and community based settings, and challenge civil rights violations.

Autism is the fastest-growing developmental disability in the United States. In 2010, 1 in 125 children were diagnosed, whereas, in 2020, the CDC approximate 1 in 54 children will be diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder. This year the theme is “Celebrate Differences.” Designed to build more awareness of the realities of autism, promote acceptance, and be
more inclusive in everyday life.

We hope to celebrate differences, debunk myths, and create a more inclusive world for everyone.

For these reasons, DRC supports ACR 188 (Chau), World Autism Awareness Day.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Eric Harris
Legislative Advocate 2
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Ed Chau, California State Assembly
Garret Bazurto, Legislative Director, Office of Assembly Member Chau