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July 8, 2021

The Honorable Reginald Jones-Sawyer  
Chair, Public Safety Committee  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 2117  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 504 (BECKER) as amended June 16, 2021 - SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports SB 504**. This bill is scheduled for hearing before Assembly Public Safety on July 13, 2021.

Disability Rights California (DRC) is a statewide protection and advocacy agency, which advocates on behalf of people with disabilities. DRC works for a world where all disabled people have power and are treated with dignity and respect. In this world, people with disabilities are supported, valued, included in their communities, and afforded the same opportunities as people without disabilities to make their own decisions. DRC works so people with disabilities can vote privately and independently. We train poll workers and people with disabilities about voting rights.

This bill would require a county elections official to make conditional voter registration available to military and overseas voters and voters with disabilities via a certified remote accessible vote by mail system.

California now allows every registered voter in the state to use vote by mail. Remote accessible vote by mail is a system that allows voters with

disabilities, many of whom often rely on others to assist them in reading and marking their ballot, to cast their vote privately and independently from home. Remote accessible vote by mail in California is extremely secure. California has one of the most strenuous testing and certification programs in the country to ensure that voters are able to vote in private and independently.

The bill would not only require the county officials to make conditional voter registration available to military and overseas voters, but also voters with disabilities. We thank the author's office for working with DRC on this important issue and including the disability community in this bill. This will make the process of registering to vote conditionally much more straight forward for voters with disabilities.

DRC looks forward to working with the legislature, the governor and Secretary of State to make California a leader in accessible voting and making sure that voters with disabilities are able to register and vote.

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 "Eric Harris". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent "E" and "H".

Eric Harris  
Director of Public Policy  
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Members, Assembly Public Safety Committee  
Honorable Josh Becker, California State Senate  
Garrett Jensen, Legislative Aide, Office of Senator Becker