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September 23, 2021

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

**RE: SB 507 (EGGMAN) – REQUEST FOR VETO**

Dear Governor Newsom:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, respectfully asks you to veto **SB 507 (Eggman)**. SB 507 loosens the criteria under which an individual can be ordered by a judge into involuntary outpatient commitment. It also authorizes the filing of a petition for involuntary outpatient commitment by the court for those individuals who are exiting LPS conservatorship.

DRC opposes legislative efforts to expand involuntary mental health treatment to anyone who is not imminently dangerous to themselves or others, or gravely disabled. Effective assistance comes from a collaborative effort between the recipient of treatment and provider of treatment: “compliance” with treatment cannot be coerced.

While we understand the desire to use Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) as a step-down, as highlighted in the 2019 LPS report by the State Auditor, the provisions in this bill are not limited to individuals coming from a higher level of care and would lead to a substantial expansion of AOT. SB 507 would make it easier for counties and courts to order individuals into involuntary outpatient commitment and does very little to guarantee

that the counties truly offer a full range of voluntary services in a way that meets the needs of the individual.

For these reasons, DRC respectfully asks that you veto SB 507 (Eggman). Please contact me if you have any questions or if I can provide any further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Harris". The signature is stylized with a large "E" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Eric Harris  
Director of Public Policy  
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Susan Eggman, California State Senate  
Logan Hess, Legislative Director, Office of Senator Eggman  
Tam Ma, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Governor Newsom