



**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC  
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April 2, 2018

Honorable Ed Hernandez  
Chair, Health Committee  
California State Senate  
Capitol Building, Room 2080  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 1004 (WIENER) – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Hernandez:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports SB 1004**. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Senate Health Committee on April 11, 2018.

This bill seeks to provide a structure within the Mental Health Services Act to move counties toward using their Prevention and Early Intervention funds under the Act to standardize and strengthen early intervention strategies for mental health. As stated in the intent language, the longer mental illness goes untreated, the more likely that a young person will spiral down a damaging course. Plans that focus more early intervention for youth will significantly strengthen the behavioral health delivery system thereby improving outcomes throughout the system. We commend the author and sponsor for bringing this bill forward.

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.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Curtis Child". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Curtis" and last name "Child" clearly distinguishable.

Curtis Child  
Legislative Director  
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Scott Wiener, California State Senate  
Angela Hill, Fellow, Office of Senator Wiener  
Honorable Members, Senate Health Committee  
Reyes Diaz, Principal Consultant, Senate Health Committee  
Adriana Ruelas, Legislative Affairs Director, Steinberg Institute