

LEGISLATION & PUBLIC INFORMATION UNIT

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California's protection & advocacy system

September 14, 2018

Honorable Jerry Brown Governor of California Capitol Building, 1st Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1021 (WIENER) – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Brown:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports SB 1021 and requests your signature.**

SB 1021 takes a common-sense approach to helping consumers who need expensive prescription drugs by revising the way prescription drug benefits are applied when the retail price of a drug is less than the drug plan's applicable copayment.

Consumers should not be caught in the middle of negotiations between health plans, drug plans, pharmacy benefit managers – in short any entity in the distribution line for a prescription drug – when the simplest approach saves money. If the retail price is lower than the copay, the retail price becomes the copay.

The bill adds other improvements as well, including a prohibition on requiring a multi-tablet retroviral drug treatment for HIV/AIDS when a one-tablet regiment is just as effective.

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For these reasons, DRC supports this bill and requests your signature. Please contact me if you have any questions about our position or if I can provide any further information.

Sincerely,

Deb Roth Senior Legislative Advocate Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Scott Wiener, California State Senate Miles Horton, Legislative Aide, Office of Senator Beall Donna Campbell, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs Samuel Miller, Legislative Assistant, Office of Legislative Affairs