



**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC
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August 20, 2018

Honorable Robert M. Hertzberg
California State Senate
Capitol Building, Room 4038
Sacramento, CA 95814

Honorable Rob Bonta
California State Assembly
Capitol Building, Room 2148
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 10 (HERTZBERG) as amended August 20, 2018 – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Hertzberg and Assembly Member Bonta:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports SB 10**. This bill is pending on the Assembly Floor.

This bill will end the presumption of detention for people who are too poor to post money bail. The bail system is unfair to people with low incomes and people of color. Further, bail and pretrial detention negatively and disproportionately impact people with mental health disabilities, contributing to the over-incarceration of this population. Pretrial detention causes people to lose their jobs, their housing, and connections with their families. People in jail pretrial are more likely to be convicted and serve longer sentences than similarly situated people who are released pretrial. The system is also bad for public safety because people held pretrial have higher recidivism rates than similarly situated people who do not stay in jail pretrial.


The negative effects of the bail system are felt beyond the people held pretrial and their families. Pretrial detention is expensive, costing more than \$100 per night compared to the minimal costs associated with own recognizance release, even with conditions. The high level of unnecessary

pretrial detention puts pressure on counties to build new, expensive, and unnecessary jail beds. Those funds could be used for more productive uses including improving social services, investing in housing and developing community based programs for people with mental health disabilities.

We are pleased to join the strong and diverse coalition that supports SB 10, as amended, to strike a balance to provide greater equity for the accused and to make communities safer and more responsive to critical service needs.

It is time for California to take this important step in criminal justice reform. We believe that persons with disabilities will be better served under a system that ends money bail and prioritizes safety. Thank you for authoring this important legislation.

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: Michael Bedard, Chief of Staff, Office of Senator Hertzberg
Alex Barnett, Consultant, Office of Senator Hertzberg
Evan Coder, Chief of Staff, Office of Assembly Member Bonta
Camille Wagner, Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor
Honorable Toni Atkins, Senate President Pro Tempore, California
State Senate
Honorable Anthony Rendon, Speaker of the Assembly, California
State Assembly
Mary Gutierrez, Early Care and Education Campaign Director, SEIU
California
Natasha Minsker, Center Director, ACLU of California
Jessica Bartholow, Policy Advocate, Western Center on Law and
Poverty