



**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC
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September 6, 2018

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

**RE: SB 1152 (HERNANDEZ) as amended August 23, 2018 – 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 1152 and requests your signature.**

This bill would create a hospital discharge planning process for homeless patients that takes into account the unique medical and social service needs of these individuals. SB 1152 provides a clear protocol for discharging homeless patients and encourages collaboration between hospitals and social service providers, including: 1) prioritizing discharging patients to a residence, health facility or shelter that has agreed to accept the patient; 2) meeting the specific needs of homeless patients including offering appropriate clothing, a meal, necessary medication, health coverage enrollment assistance and screening for communicable disease; and, 3) developing coordination and referral plans with local social service, county, and mental health entities.

Homeless individuals often look to emergency rooms for their medical care because of their inability to access the care elsewhere. Additionally, they may be suffering from physical and mental degeneration because of their homelessness. Therefore, it is critical that they only be discharged from

hospitals if there is a plan for assuring that they can access resources and supports so that they are not vulnerable in unsafe conditions upon discharge. This bill will also lead to fewer avoidable readmissions, which are costly and have been the focus of numerous quality and payment reform initiatives.

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.

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 Ed Hernandez, California State Senate
Vincent Marchand, Principal Consultant, Senate Health Committee
Donna Campbell, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs
Samuel Miller, Legislative Assistant, Office of Legislative Affairs