

LEGISLATION & PUBLIC INFORMATION UNIT

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California's protection & advocacy system

August 30, 2018

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

RE: SB 1187 (BEALL) 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 1187 and requests your signature**.

SB 1187 reduces the term for commitment in a treatment facility from three years to the shorter of two years or the period of commitment equal to the maximum term of imprisonment provided by law for the most serious offense charged. Since 1973 when the competency statute was amended to create the maximum three-year period, medication and treatment have advanced and restoration programs have been increasingly more successful to the point that competency for most individuals is restored in six to twelve months. By shortening the maximum commitment period, this bill creates the opportunity for counties to provide appropriate community-based mental health and supportive services. The additional resources proposed in the 2018-19 budget should be available for these services.

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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.

Very truly yours,

Curtis Child Legislative Director Disability Rights California

 cc: Honorable Jim Beall, California State Senate Gregory Cramer, Consultant, Office of Senator Beall Daniel Seeman, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs
Daniel Gutierrez, Assistant Legislative Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs