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July 20, 2018

Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher  
Chair, Appropriations Committee  
California State Assembly  
Capitol Building, Room 2114  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 1187 (BEALL) as amended May 25, 2018 – SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports SB 1187**. This bill will soon come before you for hearing in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

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.

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" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Child".

Curtis Child  
Legislative Director  
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Jim Beall, California State Senate  
Gregory Cramer, Consultant, Office of Senator Beall  
Honorable Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Jessica Peters, Principal Consultant, Assembly Appropriations  
Committee  
Shaun Naidu, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Gary Olson, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus Committee