



**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC
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July 19, 2018

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

RE: SB 1274 (MCGUIRE) as amended June 21, 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 1274**. This bill will soon come before you for hearing in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 1274 requires the State Department of Social Services (DSS) to provide the eligibility and enrollment data for the CalWORKs, CalFresh, and Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment programs to the State Department of Developmental Services (DDS). As amended, it also requires DDS to maintain the confidentiality of any information provided to it by the State Department of Social Services (DSS) to the same extent as if DDS had acquired the information directly.

The bill's requirement to provide data allows for the monitoring and evaluation of employment outcomes to determine the effectiveness of the Employment First Policy. It also assists in supporting consumers to achieve competitive integrated employment. This measure builds upon AB 1696, signed last year, that authorized the Employment Development Department (EDD) to disclose specified wage related information to assist DDS to achieve the same goals.

California's Employment First Policy directs the state to make opportunities for competitive integrated employment a clear priority. Collecting the additional data from DSS, as required by this bill, creates another means to monitor and measure progress towards competitive integrated employment and assists in developing effective strategies to improve employment outcomes for Californians with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Evelyn M. Abouhassan".

Evelyn Abouhassan
Senior Legislative Advocate
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Mike McGuire, California State Senate
Jessica Zaragoza, Legislative Aide, Office of Senator McGuire
Honorable Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Jessica Peters, Principal Consultant, Assembly Appropriations
Committee
Alex Khan, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus Committee