

## LEGISLATION & COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

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March 15, 2019

Honorable Nancy Skinner Chair, Public Safety Committee California State Senate Capitol Building, Room 5094 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 164 (McGuire) as introduced January 24, 2019 - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Skinner:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports SB 164**. This bill is scheduled for hearing before the Senate Public Safety Committee on March 26, 2019.

This bill would—when a person has been convicted of an infraction but has shown that payment of the total fine would pose a hardship, and the person has elected to perform community service in lieu of paying the total fine—permit the person to elect to perform that community service in either the county in which the infraction violation occurred, or in the county of the person's residence.

Individuals with disabilities often have limited financial resources and payment of a total fine will often pose a significant hardship. Many such individuals also have limited access to affordable and accessible transportation. Therefore, the option to perform community service in the individual's county of residence that would be available pursuant to SB 164 will benefit many people with disabilities.

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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,

Curtis Child Legislative Director

Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Members, Senate Public Safety Committee
Mary Kennedy, Chief Counsel, Senate Public Safety Committee
Honorable Mike McGuire, California State Senate
Emily Cornett, Fellow, Office of Senator McGuire
Eric Csizmar, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus
Committee