



**LEGISLATION & PUBLIC  
INFORMATION UNIT**  
1831 K Street  
Sacramento, CA 95811-4114  
Tel: (916) 504-5800  
TTY: (800) 719-5798  
Intake Line: (800) 776-5746  
Fax: (916) 504-5807  
[www.disabilityrightsca.org](http://www.disabilityrightsca.org)

March 24, 2017

Honorable Scott Wilk  
California State Senate  
Capitol Building, Room 4090  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 283 (WILK) – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Wilk:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, supports SB 283. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Senate Human Services Committee on March 28, 2017.

Currently, regional center services are unavailable if a person develops a developmental disability, after the age of 18 in California. Regional centers specialize in providing community-based services that enable individuals with developmental disabilities to achieve their full potential and highest level of self-sufficiency.

SB 283 modifies the definition of developmental disability to enable a person who has an acquired brain injury, including but not limited to a traumatic brain injury after he or she attains 18 years of age, but before he or she attains 22 years of age, to be eligible for regional center services and supports, if the person would be otherwise eligible for those services but for his or her age.

This change in law would make a huge difference for this group of individuals, who are currently not eligible, because it ensures that they receive needed community-based services from regional centers to be able

to live their lives to the fullest. For these reasons, we support this bill.  
Please contact me if you have any questions about our position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Evelyn M. Abouhassan". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Evelyn Abouhassan  
Senior Legislative Advocate  
Disability Rights California

cc: Junay Gardner, Legislative Director, Office of Senator Wilk  
Honorable Chair and Members, Senate Human Services Committee  
Mareva Brown, Chief Consultant, Senate Human Services Committee