

LEGISLATION & PUBLIC INFORMATION UNIT

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June 16, 2017

Honorable Ed Chau Chair, Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee California State Assembly Capitol Building, Room 5016 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 575 (LEYVA) - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Chau

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, supports SB 575. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee on June 20, 2017.

SB 575 allows low-income individuals to have free access to their medical records when applying for public benefit programs. Currently, applicants only have access to their medical records without charge on an appeal of the denial of benefits. Ensuring that an applicant for benefits can receive their medical records can expedite their application and approval and avoid what may be an unnecessary delay. This bill will help ensure that applicants for public benefits can expedite the benefits for which they are eligible.

For these reasons, we support this bill. Please contact me if you have any questions about our position on this bill.

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Very truly yours,

Curtis Child Legislative Director

Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Connie Leyva, California State Senate

Deepen Gagneja, Fellow, Office of Senator Leyva

Honorable Members, Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection

Committee

Hank Dempsey, Chief Consultant, Assembly Privacy and Consumer

Protection Committee