



**LEGISLATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS UNIT**

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June 19, 2019

Honorable Jose Medina
Chair, Higher Education Committee
California State Assembly
Capitol Building, Room 2141
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 660 (Pan) as amended May 17, 2019 – SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Medina:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports SB 660**. This bill is scheduled for hearing in the Assembly Higher Education Committee on June 25, 2019.


This bill would require the Trustees of the California State University and the governing board of each community college district to have one full-time equivalent mental health counselor with an applicable California license per 1,500 students enrolled at each of their respective campuses. The bill would require those institutions every 3 years to report to the Legislature how funding was spent, the number of mental health counselors employed on each of its campuses, conduct a campus survey and focus groups to understand students' needs and challenges, and would require each campus of those institutions to collect data on attempted suicides.

DRC believes that every individual should have access to a high-quality education in the least restrictive environment. Additionally, as students come from a broad cross-section of experiential and health backgrounds, DRC believes in providing the appropriate support to assist students in

meeting their educational goals.

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" and last name "Child" clearly distinguishable.

Curtis Child
Legislative Director
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Members, Assembly Higher Education Committee
Kevin Powers, Senior Consultant, Assembly Higher Education
Committee
Honorable Richard Pan, California State Senate
Melissa Bardo, Legislative Aide, Office of Senator Pan
Robert Becker, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus Committee