



**LEGISLATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS UNIT**

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August 1, 2019

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

RE: SB 72 (Umberg) as amended July 2, 2019 – SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez:

Disability Rights California (DRC), a non-profit advocacy organization that advances and protects the rights of Californians with disabilities, **supports SB 72**. This bill is currently pending in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

DRC works so people with disabilities can vote privately and independently. Voting is a right that many in our nation's history fought and died for. DRC works hard so that this right is able to be exercised by as many potential voters with disabilities as possible.

This bill would specifically require, rather than permit, the county elections official to offer conditional voter registration (CVR) and provisional voting at all satellite offices of the county elections office and all polling places in the county. If the elections official is able to determine a conditionally registered voter's precinct, and the ballot for that precinct is available, the bill would require the elections official to provide the voter with a ballot for the voter's precinct. If the elections official is unable to determine the conditionally registered voter's precinct, or a ballot for the precinct is unavailable, the bill would require the elections official to provide the voter with a ballot and inform the voter that only the votes for the candidates and measures on

which the voter would be entitled to vote in the voter's assigned precinct may be counted.

This bill would also allow people who are not residents of Voter's Choice Act counties to take advantage of CVR at their neighborhood polling place on Election Day, rather than the County Elections Office, which could be across the county, making it very difficult for a person with a disability to get to.

CVR is for individuals who miss the deadline to register to vote. These voters are able to cast a ballot by completing the CVR process. At times, voters with disabilities might have trouble registering to vote in time. This would help all voters, especially those with disabilities, who have a difficult time traveling. This bill would benefit all voters, especially those with 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 black ink, appearing to read "Eric Harris". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent "E" and "H".

Eric Harris
Legislative Advocate 2
Disability Rights California

cc: Honorable Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Jennifer Galehouse, Deputy Chief Consultant, Assembly
Appropriations Committee
Honorable Thomas Umberg, California State Senate
Aria Ghafari, Legislative Director, Office of Senator Umberg
Daryl Thomas, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus Committee