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April 22, 2024

The Honorable Buffy Wicks  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
1020 O Street, Suite 8220  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 2289 (Low) - Vehicles: parking placards for disabled veterans and persons with disabilities.  
As Amended March 21, 2024 – SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Wicks:

On behalf of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), representing all 58 counties in California, I am pleased to support Assembly Bill (AB) 2289 by Assemblymember Low. This measure clarifies the instances under which a physical therapist may sign the appropriate certification required before a placard or license plate can be issued to a disabled veteran or person with a disability. AB 2289 adds physical therapists to the list of those who can certify the condition and submit the paperwork, consistent with other provisions of existing law and procedures established by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the State of California made several emergency changes in healthcare service delivery to slow the spread of the illness while maintaining an adequate service structure. After the pandemic ended, statutes were changed to allow the continuation of such delivery systems beyond the non-emergency because of the realized efficiencies.

AB 2289 offers a similar efficiency. Instead of requiring that in every case, a patient in need of certification for a disability placard get a sign-off from a physician, a physical therapist who is working directly with the patient and has specific knowledge of the person's limitations in movement could, under conditions specified in the bill, complete the necessary form for submission to the DMV, creating efficiency for the patient and providers. AB 2289 meets the patient's needs while also recognizing the professional expertise of physical therapists in evaluating and treating disorders and limitations in movement.

For these reasons, CSAC supports AB 2289 and respectfully requests your AYE vote. If you have any questions about our position, please contact me at [kdean@counties.org](mailto:kdean@counties.org).

Sincerely,

Kalyn Dean  
Legislative Advocate

cc: The Honorable Evan Low, California State Assembly, District 26  
Members and Staff, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Joe Shinstock, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus