**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER AB 911 (Rodriguez) – Use Respective Letterhead**

**Submit via position letter portal:** <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/>

**Send a copy to:** kbas@udwa.org, mbynum@udwa.org, teresa@thearcca.org, jordan@thearcca.org

[Date]

**TO: The Honorable Miguel Santiago, Chair**

 **The Honorable Members of Assembly Communications and Conveyance Committee**

**RE: Assembly Bill 911 (Rodriguez) – [Insert Organization Name] Supports**

Dear Assembly member Santiago,

[Organization] is in support of AB 911, the Manny Alert Act, as amended on March 21, 2019. This bill would require the Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to establish a statewide 911 Emergency Communication System that enables all Californians, and more specifically older adults, individuals with disabilities and other at-risk persons, to voluntarily provide vital health and safety information about themselves to first responders in advance of an emergency.

CalOES is currently transitioning from an analog 911 system to Next Generation 911, an upgraded digital system with location services and dynamic call routing. Although these are significant improvements to the current system, the state’s 911 system should also be updated to meet the unique needs of persons with cognitive, intellectual, developmental, and/or mental health disabilities who may be unable to communicate to first responders during emergencies.

[Insert information about your organization and why you are supporting AB 911]

AB 911 would allow individuals to make available such personal information as the type of disability, signals of distress, calming strategies, special medical conditions, emergency contacts, and photographs, all in advance of an emergency. This will save precious time and assist first responders to make informed decisions about the best course of action.

For these reasons, we support AB 911 and respectfully request your “Aye” vote.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Title and Organization]