Use your organization’s stationery, then submit your letter to Governor Newsom by emailing it to leg.unit@gov.ca.gov and please send a signed copy to Julie McCormick, mccormickj@clccal.org.

September XX, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of the State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000

Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 1735 (Bryan) SUPPORT: Foster Care Rights**

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of organization name, I am writing in strong support of AB 1735 (Bryan), which will ensure that foster youth who speak a primary language other than English are able to meaningfully participate in their case by providing them with translated copies of essential documents such as their case plan, transitional independent living plan, court reports and the foster youth bill of rights.

Brief description of your organization and why it supports the bill. If applicable, include a client story demonstrating the critical need for non-English speaking clients to receive documents in their native language.

Studies have shown that youth who take an active role in their case plans and other decision-making factors that affect their life are more likely to successfully transition from foster care to adulthood. Current law states that foster youth are entitled to receive copies of their case plan, transitional independent living plan (TILP), and the foster youth bill of rights in order to participate in their case and influence the decisions and goals set forth for them. However, there is no legal requirement that these critical child welfare documents be translated for a youth who speaks a primary language other than English. As a result, foster youth who are non-native English speakers are not always able to contribute meaningfully to their case. They lack language access resources to fully comprehend the documents, services, and rights provided to them. Without translated materials, these youth face an additional barrier to exiting the foster care system and leading stable, independent lives.

AB 1735 is needed to empower foster youth whose primary language is not English to take agency in the decisions that impact their life and to utilize the resources and services available to help them achieve success.

For these reasons, [Organization] respectfully requests your signature on AB 1735. Thank you.

Sincerely,

NAME

TITLE

ORGANIZATION

cc: Assemblymember Bryan