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30 Years of Feminism From Marching in the Streets To a Seat at the Table

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Honorable Jeanne Shaheen
506 Hart Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

April 10, 2018

Re: S 2120 (Shaheen) International Violence Against Women Act of 2017 – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Shaheen,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for S 2120, addressing violence against women world-wide. SBWPC's mission is dedicated to furthering gender equality and other feminist values through political and social action and educational activities. Our organization is one of the largest women's political committees in Santa Barbara County with over 400 members. We advocate for a diverse set of positions which include International Peace and Security and Crimes Against Women. We state: "The 21st century world calls for a feminist approach to global engagement and international relations in order to achieve worldwide peace and security," including "respect for the fundamental rights of women and support for their economic and social equality" (<http://sbwpc.org/positions/>).

The organization Futures Without Violence states: "One out of every three women worldwide will be abused during her lifetime. Violence against women and girls is a human rights violation, a public health epidemic, and a barrier to solving global challenges such as extreme poverty, HIV and AIDS, and violent conflict." The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee agrees and believes that the United States should take a leadership position for change. SBWPC therefore regards your bill as an important step forward in achieving the principled treatment of women globally as well as increasing International security.

Therefore, SBWPC wishes to sign on as a supporter of S 2120.

Thank you for reviewing our organization's position on this issue. Should you wish to communicate further with us, please email us at info@sbwpc.org or visit our website: www.sbwpc.org

Sincerely,

Catherine Swysen
President

Cc: Senator Kamala Harris, 112 Hart Senate Office Bldg, Washington, D.C. 20510
Senator Diane Feinstein, 331 Hart Senate Office Bldg, Washington, D.C. 20510