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

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April 27, 2018

Honorable Hannah-Beth Jackson
State Capitol, Room 2032
Sacramento, CA 95814
Email: nora.lynn@sen.ca.gov

RE: SB 1150 (Jackson) Gender Discrimination - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Jackson,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for SB 1150 addressing gender discrimination. As you know, SBWPC's mission is dedicated to furthering gender equality and other feminist values, and 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, Equal Rights, and Gender Balance (<http://sbwpc.org/positions/>).

We agree with the Consumer Attorneys of California that "[t]he current federal administration's open hostility to the rights of women makes this mission [of promoting gender equality] all the more urgent." SBWPC's International Peace and Security position paper calls for the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1979. It is utterly unacceptable that the United States has not ratified CEDAW while 187 other nations have done so. Consequently, SBWPC is wholly in support of SB 1150's application of the procedural framework of CEDAW to California government, while we also understand that "[t]he bill would not, by itself, obligate the state to take any action beyond conducting the evaluations and developing responsive recommendations." (CA Senate Judiciary Committee analysis, 4/16/18)

The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee regards SB 1150 as an important step forward in ensuring full and complete equality for women. **Therefore, SBWPC wishes to sign on as a supporter of SB 1150.**

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 SBWPC

Cc: Assemblymember Monique Limón Email: ilan.zur@asm.ca.gov

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