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## *31 Years of Feminism From Marching in the Streets to a Seat at the Table*

March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Honorable Assemblymember Dr. Shirley Weber  
State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249-0079  
Email: [Anthony.DiMartino@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Anthony.DiMartino@asm.ca.gov)

**RE: AB 392 – Peace officers: deadly force - SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymember Weber,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for AB 392 addressing the authorization for use of force by police officers. 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 well over 300 members. We advocate for a diverse set of positions which include a commitment to promoting peace and security through non-violent conflict resolution and to ending racist practices within our society. We are also partners with the Santa Barbara County Coalition Against Gun Violence. (<http://sbwpc.org/positions/>).

We support AB 392, which amends the penal code to authorize deadly force by a police officer only when it is absolutely necessary to prevent imminent death or serious bodily injury to the officer or members of the public. It establishes that use of deadly force by an officer is only justifiable if there are no other reasonable alternatives (e.g. de-escalation tactics) and the officer is not responsible for the escalation of the conflict through gross negligence. This law makes clear the incredible responsibility of police officers in protecting and respecting every human life. Use of force by police disproportionately affects minority populations, especially young black men. SBWPC has taken a position against racism and violence and, as such, sees these amendments as a valuable addition to our state's laws.

The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee regards AB 392 as an important step forward in preventing unnecessary use of force by police officers and making our state a safer place for the groups most affected by this violence. **Therefore, SBWPC wishes to sign on as a supporter of AB 392.**

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](mailto:info@sbwpc.org) or visit our website: [www.sbwpc.org](http://www.sbwpc.org)

Sincerely,

Luz Reyes-Martin, President SBWPC

CC: Assemblymember Monique Limón, Email: [jimmy.wittrock@asm.ca.gov](mailto:jimmy.wittrock@asm.ca.gov)  
Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, Fax: (916) 651-4919  
Santa Barbara Coalition Against Gun Violence, Email: [sbcagv@gmail.com](mailto:sbcagv@gmail.com)

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