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

March 25, 2019

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The Honorable Evan Low
Chair, Assembly Business & Professions Committee
State Capitol, Room 4126
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 890 (Wood) Nurse Practitioners- SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Low,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for AB 890 addressing scope of care by nurse practitioners. 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 Health Care <https://sbwpc.org/positions/>.

The California Health Workforce Commission has recommended that California reform scope of practice regulations in order to give NPs full practice authority. Dozens of studies have demonstrated that the quality of NP care is comparable to that of physician care and does not decline in the absence of physician oversight requirements. Furthermore, while only 33 percent of physicians in the U.S. practice primary care, nearly 80 percent of NPs do so (Health Affairs - online September 4, 2018). Currently, millions of the state's citizens cannot find adequate primary health care, proving that expansion of access is essential going forward.

SBWPC understands that AB 890 will help millions of Californians who struggle to find health care providers by providing expanded access via the services of nurse practitioners. The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee regards AB 890 as an important step forward in healthcare access in California.

Therefore, SBWPC wishes to sign on as a supporter of AB 890.

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,

Luz Reyes-Martín, President SBWPC

CC: Assemblymember Jim Wood, Email: lara.flynn@asm.ca.gov
Assemblymember Monique Limón, Email: Israel.landa@asm.ca.gov
Kristy Weise at kwiese@capitoladvocacy.com

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