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

August 2, 2019

Honorable Kansen Chu State Capitol – Room 3126 P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0025 Email: Dana.Mitchell@asm.ca.gov

RE: AB 800 (Chu) Civil Actions: Confidentiality - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Chu,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for AB 800, addressing the confidentiality of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking who participate in the Safe at Home program. We advocate for a diverse set of positions which include Crimes Against Women (http://sbwpc.org/positions/). 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.

Victims of abuse often suffer lifelong impacts, and it may take decades for survivors to come forward to seek justice. SBWPC supports extending the protections of victims of abuse pursuing civil action, as it positively impacts the safety and confidentiality of survivors and their families. AB 800 ensures that the participants in the Safe at Home program can utilize the civil justice system without the fear or risk of further harm from their abuser.

The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee regards AB 800 as an important step forward in protecting the rights of victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault in the Safe at Home program so that their personal information may continue to be confidential within the court system. **Therefore, SBWPC wishes to sign on as a supporter of AB 800.**

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-Martin, President SBWPC

CC: Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, *Email:* marly.young@sen.ca.gov Assemblymember Monique Limón, *Email:* Mariana.Sabeniano@asm.ca.gov