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

May 13, 2019

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Honorable María Elena Durazo
State Capitol, Room 5066
Sacramento, CA 95814
Email: daisy.luna@sen.ca.gov

RE: SB 29 (Durazo) Access to Medi-Cal for the Undocumented - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Durazo:

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for SB 29 which extends eligibility for full-scope Medi-Cal benefits to individuals of all ages who are otherwise eligible for those benefits but for their immigration status. 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 that include quality healthcare for immigrant families, including access to full reproductive rights, and equal protection under the law for all people, regardless of immigration status. <https://sbwpc.org/positions/>.

We are aware that counties are required to make Medi-Cal eligibility determinations and this bill would expand Medi-Cal eligibility; therefore, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. We support requirements such as ensuring that an individual maintains their primary care provider without disruption to their continuity of care. We understand that this would require the department to collaborate with the counties and designated public hospitals to maximize federal financial participation, and would require the department to work with designated public hospitals to mitigate financial losses related to the implementation of these requirements.

The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee regards SB 29 as an important step forward making quality health care available to all women and their families regardless of immigration status. Therefore, SBWPC wishes to sign on as a supporter of SB 29.

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, fax: (916) 651-4919
Assemblywoman Monique Limón, email: Israel.landa@asm.ca.gov
The California Latino Legislative Caucus, email: Waynee.Lucero@asm.ca.gov