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

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April 10, 2020

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar  
425 Dirksen Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

RE: **S 3529 (Klobuchar, Wyden) Natural Disaster & Emergency Ballot Act - SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Klobuchar,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for S 3529 addressing facilitation of voting in the event of natural disasters and emergencies. 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 approximately 300 members. Our Mission Statement affirms that SBWPC is committed to taking social action against discrimination based on gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation gender identity, religion, age or ability.

We know that an important and effective way to fight discrimination is through access the ballot for U.S. citizens. The current COVID-19 virus emergency draws stark attention to the fact that emergencies can and do interfere with voting, denying many citizens of access to the ballot box. The Natural Disaster & Emergency Ballot Act must become law to ensure that all voters have protections such as 20 days of early voting in all states, a requirement to count all mail-in ballots submitted during 21 days leading to an election, and for all voters to have the option to request absentee ballots.

The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee regards S 3529 as an important step in securing and safeguarding every U.S. citizen's right to vote. **Therefore, SBWPC wishes to sign on as a supporter of S 3529 Natural Disaster & Emergency Ballot Act.**

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-Martín  
President SBWPC

CC: Senator Ron Wyden, 221 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C., 20510