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

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April 5, 2021

The Honorable Lena Gonzalez
State Capitol, Room 2068
Sacramento, CA 95814
Email: George.Soares@sen.ca.gov

**RE: SB 4 (Gonzales) – Communications: California Advanced Services Fund
“Broadband for All” Act - SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Gonzalez,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women’s Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for SB 4 addressing the need to increase access to broadband services for currently unserved areas. Our organization is one of the largest women’s political committees in Santa Barbara County with approximately 300 members. We advocate for a diverse set of positions which include a belief that all individuals have the right to an accessible and equitable public education. (<https://sbwpc.org/positions/>)

In light of COVID-19, it has become even more apparent that access to the internet is not a luxury, but a necessity that enables individuals to access education as well as work and healthcare. By requiring the California Public Utilities Commission to approve projects that provide high-capacity broadband infrastructure to households in underserved areas and by allowing local governments and private Internet Service Providers to more easily apply for grants, SB 4 will decrease the digital divide and create more opportunities for underserved communities.

Because of this, the Santa Barbara Women’s Political Committee regards SB 4 as an important step in addressing the systemic problems of inequitable broadband access. **Therefore, SBWPC wishes to sign on as a supporter of SB 4.**

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 Monique Limón; Jimmy.Wittrock@sen.ca.gov
CC: CA Legislature Position Letter Portal

