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

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April 23, 2021

The Honorable Toni Atkins, Senate President pro Tempore
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814
Email: Policy Director Deanna.Spehn@sen.ca.gov

RE: SB 65 (Skinner) Maternal care & Services (CA Omnibus Act) - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Atkins,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for SB 65 addressing maternal care and services. SBWPC's mission is dedicated to furthering gender equality and other feminist values. 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 Anti-Racism and Healthcare. <https://sbwpc.org/positions/>.

We are aware that SB 65 "was held by the State Senate's Human Services Chair yesterday. Before it was held by Senator Hurtado, SB 65 had no registered opposition, and had unanimous support in the Senate Health Committee, with several members asking to join as co-authors. Now the bill is at risk, as it only has until April 28th to be heard in committee before it can move through the legislative process." (<https://wclp.org/joint-statement-stopping-californias-momnibus-bill-contradicts-calls-to-protect-black-indigenous-lives/?fbclid=IwAR2W2rtVgrNgB-nXqhb7653MTYjE4JmXrFns6x8yui9o0DjXaEAnZYrOYN4>)

In researching the above action, we have found no reason or explanation for it. The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee regards SB 65 as an important step forward in reversing the appalling disproportionate health disparities between people of color and whites, and in dismantling socio-economic and institutional racism in our state. **Therefore, SBWPC wishes to sign on as a supporter of SB 65 and urges that it be put to committee vote immediately.**

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: Sen. Nancy Skinner, Legis. Dir. Katerina.Robinson@sen.ca.gov

CC: Sen. Monique Limón, Legis. Dir. Jimmy.Wittrock@sen.ca.gov

CC: CA Legislature Position Letter Portal: <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/>