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

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June 25, 2021

The Honorable Hakeem S. Jeffries
2433 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Email: Zoe.Oreck@mail.house.gov

RE: H.R. 1693 – EQUAL Act - SUPPORT

Dear Representative Jeffries,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for H.R. 1693, The Eliminating a Quantifiably Unjust Application of the Law Act, which aims to eliminate the disparity in cocaine sentencing. 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 we must identify, confront, and eliminate racism in all its forms. We advocate for legislation advancing equity in all spheres of society including policymaking and the justice system. (<https://sbwpc.org/positions/>)

The sentencing disparity in length of terms for cocaine convictions, which was created by the 1986 Anti-Drug Abuse Act, is clearly prejudiced against People of Color and exemplifies the racial injustice in our justice system which has gone on far too long. H.R. 1693 will do away with this disparity as well as providing an opportunity for retroactive sentence reduction.

Because of the above, the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee regards H.R. 1693 as an important step in addressing the need to combat racism through legislative actions. **Therefore, SBWPC wishes to sign on as a supporter of H.R. 1693.**

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: Rep. Salud Carbajal, email: Johanna.Montiel@mail.house.gov