

BOARD OFFICERS

Catherine Swysen
President
Charlotte Gullap-Moore
VP Policy
Paula Lopez
VP Organization
Andria Martinez Cohen
Secretary
Meredith Murr
CFO



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

BOARD MEMBERS

Marisol Alarcon
Vicki Allen
ej Borah
Anna Everett
Pamela Flynt Tambo
Tish Gainey
Elsa Granados
Lisa Guravitz
Alejandra Gutiérrez
Hathor Hammett
Wendy Jackson
Karen Jew
Teri Jory
Christina Pizarro
Erica Schweitzer
Jennifer Smith

PAST PRESIDENTS

Gayle Binion
Barbara Lindemann
Lois Phillips
Carole Piceno
Susan Rose
Hannah-Beth Jackson
Margaret Connell
Helene Schneider
Janet Barron
Alissa Hummer
Sharon Hoshida
Lisa Guravitz
Mary O'Gorman
Beth Schneider
Jane Gray
Carol Keator
Catherine Swysen
Luz Reyes Martín

February 8, 2022

The Honorable Adrin Nazarian
6150 Van Nuys Blvd Suite 300
Van Nuys, CA 91401
Email: Grace.Dikho@asm.ca.gov

RE: AB 558 Child Nutrition Act of 2022 - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Nazarian,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for AB 558, addressing access to healthy plant-based food for public school K-12 students and access to breakfast or a morning snack for non-school-aged children. SBWPC's mission is dedicated to furthering gender equality and other feminist values. As one of the largest women's political committees in Santa Barbara County with hundreds of members, we advocate for a diverse set of positions which include Educational Equity, Healthcare and Human Rights <https://sbwpc.org/positions/>.

We are aware that this bill would offer incentives to local educational agencies to bring healthier plant-based options to public school students in grades K-12, thus supporting their nutrition and well-being. In addition to those in school, this bill would also serve non-school aged children breakfast or morning snack either free or at a reduced price. Overall health both short-term and long term requires that students have access to healthy food. Furthermore, when their nutritional needs met, students not only experience an enhanced ability to learn but also a reduction in behavior resulting in discipline problems.

The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee regards AB 558 as an important step forward in incentivizing public schools to offer healthier meal alternatives to help reduce hunger, and support both healthy brain development and increased immunity to illness. Therefore, SBWPC wishes to sign on as a supporter of AB 558.

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,

President, SBWPC

CC: Asm Steve Bennett; Legislative Director: Alexander.Soto@asm.ca.gov

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