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

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March 1, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
1021 O Street, Suite 8630
Sacramento, CA 95814
Email: Katerina.Robinson@sen.ca.gov (Legislative Director)

RE: SB-878 (School Transportation) - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Skinner,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for bill SB-878, the "Road to Success" legislation that would guarantee every California public school student the right to free transportation to school. 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, including the right to free and equitable education and the right to live in a clean and healthy environment. <https://sbwpc.org/positions/>

The lack of free public transportation for school students in so many parts of our state, including Santa Barbara County, has negative impacts on school attendance, learning and family life. Additionally, our region suffers from the negative health and climate impacts of greenhouse gas emissions, which will be addressed by the bill's funding for modernized bus fleets. In Santa Barbara, only 4 of our 12 elementary schools offer bus transportation; in Santa Maria, the shortage of bus drivers recently left an entire elementary school without transportation. Low-income families, who are least likely to have reliable and clean-energy cars, struggle throughout our region to juggle work schedules with the need to pick up children from school, a burden that typically falls disproportionately on mothers. **For these reasons and more, the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee wishes to sign on as a supporter of SB-878.**

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,

Catherine J. Swysen
President SBWPC

CC: Sen. Monique Limón, email: Jimmy.Wittrock@sen.ca.gov
CC: CA Legislature Position Letter Portal: <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/>