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## *35 Years of Feminism From Marching in the Streets to a Seat at the Table*

April 26, 2023

The Honorable Patty Murray  
154 Russell Senate OB  
Washington, DC 20510  
Email: Legislative Director: [Ben\\_Merkel@murray.senate.gov](mailto:Ben_Merkel@murray.senate.gov)

### **RE: S 728 Paycheck Fairness Act – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Murray,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to again express strong support for S 728, the Paycheck Fairness Act which is a crucial step toward closing the gender wage gap. These bills are in conformity with SBWPC's mission to further gender equality and other feminist values. Our organization is one of the largest women's political committees in Santa Barbara County with hundreds of members. Among a diversity of positions, we advocate for "women of all races to have equal pay and protection in all aspects of employment."  
<https://sbwpc.org/positions/>.

Because the Paycheck Fairness Act would, among other things, prohibit employers from screening job applicants based on their salary history, prohibit retaliation for discussions of salaries with coworkers, provide the same remedies under the Equal Pay Act as those available under the Civil Rights Act for race and ethnicity wage discrimination claims, and offer negotiation skills training for women and girls, we see it as essential to pay equity and gender equality for women. For these reasons, the **Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee enthusiastically supports S 728 and wishes to sign on as a supporter of this bill.**

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](mailto:info@sbwpc.org) or visit our website: [www.sbwpc.org](http://www.sbwpc.org).

Sincerely,

*Paula Lopez Ochoa*  
Paula Lopez Ochoa  
President SBWPC

CC: Senator Diane Feinstein, Legislative Director: [Ian\\_Bryan@feinstein.senate.gov](mailto:Ian_Bryan@feinstein.senate.gov)  
CC: Senator Alex Padilla, Legislative Director: [Joshua\\_Esquivel@Padilla.senate.gov](mailto:Joshua_Esquivel@Padilla.senate.gov)