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

April 27, 2023

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
1021 O Street, Suite 8630
Sacramento, CA 95814
Email: Kate.Chatfield@sen.ca.gov

RE: SB 345 Health care services: legally protected health care activities - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Skinner:

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for Senate Bill 345 addressing medication abortion and gender-affirming medical care.

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 strong support for safeguarding access to safe medical care and the protection of reproductive rights—especially at this critical time in our nation's history when rights of longstanding are being jeopardized in so many states.

Your bill will help to ensure that persons living in states where abortion and gender-affirming care is restricted by legislation and court rulings, can contact a California medical provider or pharmacy for needed medications, as well as be protected from criminal and civil penalties imposed by other states. This protection is critically important to Californians traveling out-of-state for work, vacations, or to help family members. It is also imperative that California do what it can to assist patients residing in those states that have turned back the clock and have outlawed and even criminalized the procurement and use of medication for abortion and gender-affirming care.

The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee wishes to sign on as a supporter of SB 345 because we regard this bill as an essential step in protecting reproductive rights and affording access to gender-affirming care for all.

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,

Paula Lopez Ochoa

Paula Lopez Ochoa
President SBWPC

CC: Sen. Monique Limón, email Chief of Staff mariana.sabeniano@sen.ca.gov
CC: CA Legislature Position Letter Portal: <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/>