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

September 6, 2023

The Honorable Joe Courtney
2449 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Email: Maria.Costigan@mail.house.gov

RE: HR 5249 (Courtney) Coast Guard Academy Safe-To-Report

Parity Act - SUPPORT Dear Congressman Courtney,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women’s Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for HR 5249, the Coast Guard Academy Safe-To-Report Parity Act. 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 Crimes Against Women, Equal Rights, and Women in the Workplace (<https://sbwpc.org/positions/>).

We support that HR 5249 will amend the National Defense Authorization Act to include the Coast Guard Academy in the safe-to-report minor collateral misconduct policy of the Armed Forces. Including the Coast Guard Academy in this policy is critical to ensuring that any victims of sexual assault who are serving in the branches of our nation’s military are not punished for any minor infractions under the Uniform Code of Military Justice that might have been committed when the crime took place.

The Santa Barbara Women’s Political Committee regards HR 5279 as an important step forward in closing policy loopholes related to reporting sexual assault in the military. **Therefore, SBWPC wishes to sign on as a supporter of HR 5249.**

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

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