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

April 3, 2025

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The Honorable Lauren Underwood
2228 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Email: Legislative Director Brittany.Hughes@mail.house.gov

RE: HR 2023 (Underwood) Women's Retirement Protection - SUPPORT

Dear Congressman Underwood,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for HR 2023 addressing Women's Retirement Protection. 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 Women in the Workplace and an organization strategy that includes influencing legislation at all levels of policy-making.

<https://sbwpc.org/positions/>.

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We are aware that women lag behind men in retirement readiness, and that HR 2023 would help to close that gap with several provisions. These include spousal consent for withdrawing or borrowing from a private sector 401(k) retirement account [consent is already required for federal 401(k) accounts]], requiring links to Consumer Financial Protection Bureau retirement resources in all offers for the sale of retirement plans, and assistance covering legal fees for some women who are pursuing the division of retirement plans in separation and divorce cases.

The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee regards HR 2023 as an important step forward in addressing the well-researched gender pay gap which results in less money saved and smaller Social Security checks to sustain women in retirement. Therefore, **SBWPC wishes to sign on as a supporter of HR 2023 Women's Retirement Protection Act.**

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,

Lisa Guravitz Elsa Granados

Lisa Guravitz/Elsa Granados
Co-Presidents, SBWPC

Cc: The Honorable Salud Carbajal; Legislative Director email: Johanna.Montiel@mail.house.gov