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Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee

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

April 16, 2025

The Honorable Senator Monique Limon
1021 O Street, Suite 7610
Sacramento, CA 95814
Email: <https://calegislature.ca.gov/Advocates/>

RE: AB 412– Home Care Aides - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Limon,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for your bill, SB-412 addressing the important need to educate home care aides regarding the special skills needed to safely care for people living with dementia/Alzheimer's disease. While Aides receive general training for home bound individuals, we agree with you that dementia poses special concerns that impact care quality and patient safety in California.

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 health and wellbeing.

We support the concept that it is less expensive and more compassionate to support people to live at home for as long as possible, instead of being institutionalized. In addition, approximately two-thirds of the more than 6 million Americans aged 65 and older living with Alzheimer's disease are women. This disparity is partly due to women's longer life expectancy, as age is the greatest known risk factor for Alzheimer's. However, even after accounting for age, women are still at a higher risk than men. For instance, studies have shown that women aged 80 and older are more likely to develop Alzheimer's than men of the same age. This bill strengthens the skills of caregivers to better assist clients with a condition that is increasingly affecting the people of the state of California as our population is aging quickly.

The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee regards SB-412 as an important step forward in this important endeavor to support caregivers caring for some of the most vulnerable in our state. **Therefore, Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee would like to go on record as a supporter for SB 412.**

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 Gregg Hart email: Gregg.Hart@asm.ca.gov