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

May 2, 2025

Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, 412, Sacramento, CA 95814
Submitted: <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/> (CA Legislature Position Letter Portal)

RE: SB 542 (Limón) Oil spill prevention- SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing to express support for **SB 542 Oil Spill Prevention**, which addresses the important need to protect California communities and the environment from oil spills. These are well-known and described risks, and we support the increased transparency as well as important updates to existing laws, especially the mandatory pipeline safety testing, and a public process for ensuring that operators take responsibility for oil spills of the future.

Oil spills have occurred many times along the California coastline, causing lasting and devastating damage. Indeed, the 1969 spill in Santa Barbara was so profound that it was the catalyst for Earth Day, and for the modern environmental movement. SB542 addresses the concerns about the risk for future spills and the impact on local wildlife, fragile habitats, fisheries and beaches, and harm to local economies.

SBWPC's mission is dedicated to furthering gender equality and other feminist values. As one of the largest and most active women's political committees in Santa Barbara County with hundreds of members, we advocate for a diverse set of positions. Our position paper on The Environment states in part, "Strong public policy requires strong stewardship and nurturing of our environment. The right to a clean and safe environment is the right of all, regardless of race, ethnicity, or economic status." <https://sbwpc.org/positions/>.

The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee regards SB 542 as an important step forward in protecting our communities from future oil spills, by increasing public accountability, and with specific requirements intended to prevent spills in the first place. We urge you to support **SB 542 Oil Spill Prevention**; please vote "aye" to help protect California against destructive oil spills.

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