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

August 21, 2025

The Honorable Senator Scott Wiener
1021 O Street, Suite 8620; Sacramento, CA 95814
Email: <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/> (CA Legislature Position Letter Portal)

RE: SB 627 Law Enforcement: Masks – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Wiener,

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee (SBWPC), I am writing in support of **SB 627, which would make it a crime for law enforcement officers to wear facial coverings while performing their duties**. We believe this measure is essential to promote transparency and accountability in law enforcement interactions with the public.

As one of the largest women's political committees in Santa Barbara County, we promote inclusive, intersectional, progressive feminist values, including support for **compassionate immigration policies**. We believe immigrant communities should live free from harassment, intimidation, family separation, inhumane and/or unlawful detainment, and discrimination, as well as receive equal protection and due process under the law.

We have seen firsthand the violence and intimidation that masked officers from U.S. Homeland Security and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) can inflict upon a community. On July 10, 2025, dozens of masked officers raided a Carpinteria cannabis farm, taking at least 10 farmworkers into custody, denying Congressman Salud Carbajal entry, and dispersing protesters with a smoke grenade. The lack of transparency and intimidation of the entire operation is harmful to individuals and the community, as fear of raids and generally of law enforcement has descended upon the community.

The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee views SB 627 as a critical step in mitigating the federal administration's vow to carry out "the largest deportation program in American history" and in ensuring humane detainment and due process. **Therefore, SBWPC wishes to sign on as a supporter of SB 627. We also endorse the urgency to enact this statute immediately to preserve the public peace, to keep our immigrant communities safe, and to boost public safety and trust in law enforcement.**

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 Monique Limón, Legislative Director samantha.omana@sen.ca.gov



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