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Executive Director Betsy Butler September 8, 2016

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr. Governor, State of California State Capitol Building Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Assembly Bill 2346 (Baker) - Urge Signature

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the California Women's Law Center (CWLC), we are writing to urge your signature on AB 2346 (Baker), which would require public social service state hearings position statements to be made available electronically two working days before a hearing.

Current law provides that a county statement of position (SOP) shall be available to be picked up two working days prior to the hearing. This requires claimants to travel to the county department of social services to get a copy of the county's SOP, which can be financially burdensome to low-income persons, particularly those living in rural areas.

AB 2346 advocates for the use of technology to increase the efficiency of these hearings. Low-income people may not be able to afford to travel to pick up the county's SOP, which can prevent proper hearings on life-threatening issues like the denial of medical services.

Since its founding in 1989, CWLC has worked to break down barriers and advance the potential of women and girls through transformative litigation, policy advocacy, and education. A vital part of our mission is to ensure that women and children have access to health care and the ability to assert their rights to important medical services.

CWLC strongly urges your signature on AB 2346, which will ensure that Californians are able to get the healthcare they need by simplifying the human services hearings process.

Sincerely,

Betsy Butler

Executive Director