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March 31, 2017

The Honorable Ed Hernandez
Chair of the Senate Health Committee
State Capitol, Room 2191
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support SB 320 (Leyva) – College Student Right to Access Act

Dear Senator Hernandez,

On behalf of the California Women's Law Center (CWLC), we are writing to support Senate Bill 320, the College Student Right to Access Act. This bill will secure students' access to reproductive health services at public universities and colleges by providing medication abortion at student health centers that receive state funding.

Most public colleges and universities in California do not provide medication abortion on campus. Therefore, students must go off campus to access abortion care—often facing significant logistical and financial barriers. Access to complete reproductive care is critical for first-generation, low-income, and parenting students, and those struggling with debt and rising tuition.

SB 320 will address obstacles to care by requiring on-campus health centers to stock FDA-approved medications for medication abortion. Medication abortion is safe, effective, and simple to provide. Furthermore, these health centers are already staffed with providers who are authorized to dispense medication including nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, and certified nurse midwives.

CWLC's mission is to advance the potential of women and girls through transformative litigation, policy advocacy, and education. We prioritize the importance of maintaining access to full reproductive healthcare options because a woman's education should not be threatened due to a lack of reproductive healthcare.

For these reasons, the California Women's Law Center strongly supports SB 320.

Sincerely,



Betsy Butler
Executive Director