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Betsy Butler

January 2, 2018

The Honorable Benjamin Allen
Chair of the Senate Education Committee
State Capitol, Room 2083
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

Dear Senator Allen,

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 by providing medication abortion at student health centers.

Currently, none of the student health centers at California's public universities provide medication abortion services, despite how clinically simple the service is to offer. 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. For these students, paying out-of-pocket at a clinic, securing reliable transportation, missing school and work are substantial obstacles.

SB 320 will address these barriers by requiring on-campus health centers at public universities 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 nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, and certified nurse midwives who are authorized to dispense medication.

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 a wide range of reproductive 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