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Executive Director Betsy Butler March 27, 2019

The Honorable Rob Bonta California State Assembly State Capitol, Room 2148 Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: AB 628 (Bonta) - Support

Dear Assemblymember Bonta,

On behalf of the California Women's Law Center (CWLC), we write in support of AB 628 which will extend employment protections to survivors of sexual harassment and their families.

AB 628 will make job-protected leave and safety accommodations available to victims of harassment and will ensure that a victim is not required to visit a medical professional before workplace accommodations are made. By simplifying the path to a safer workplace, AB 628 enables more women to keep their jobs and their source of income throughout these circumstances.

At present, family members of victims have no protection against retaliation or discrimination by employers and there is no legal guarantee that these individuals will have a job to return to if they take time off to support a family member who has been victimized. AB 628 recognizes the crucial role families play in a victim's support system and acknowledges that such hardships affect the entire family, not just the victim.

CWLC's mission is to advance the potential of women and girls through transformative litigation, policy advocacy and education. For three decades, CWLC has been on the frontlines fighting to advance women's equality and combat gender discrimination, harassment, and assault in the workplace and beyond.

For these reasons, the California Women's Law Center supports AB 628.

Sincerely,

Betsy Butler

**Executive Director** 

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