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March 29, 2022

The Honorable Jim Wood, DDS
Chair, Assembly Health Committee
State Capitol, Room 309
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Assembly Bill 1666 (Bauer-Kahan) – Support

Dear Assemblymember Wood,

On behalf of the California Women's Law Center, we write in support of AB 1666 which will protect an individual's assets in California from seizure if the individual faces a civil suit based on another state's anti-abortion law.

Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health is a direct challenge to the constitutional right to abortion under *Roe v. Wade* which is currently pending before the U.S. Supreme Court. If the Supreme Court overturns *Roe* or allows the Mississippi abortion ban at issue in *Dobbs* to remain in place, 26 states will likely criminalize abortion, resulting in 36 million Americans immediately losing access to abortion care in their home state.

Moreover, since the enactment of SB 8—the Texas law that prohibits abortion past six weeks of pregnancy—Texans are already travelling to other states to seek abortion care. This law effectively deputizes private citizens to enforce the law by filing civil suits against abortion providers or others who assist another person in obtaining an abortion. Lawmakers in 18 states have introduced or announced their intention to introduce laws modeled after SB 8.

As more people are forced to travel outside their home state to seek abortion care, an increasing number of patients will turn to California. This will place abortion providers and others at risk of civil liability under anti-abortion laws of other states.

AB 1666 will prohibit seizure of individuals' financial assets in California if a judgment or penalty is levied against them under the anti-abortion laws of other states.

CWLC's mission is to create a more just and equitable society by breaking down barriers and advancing the potential of women and girls through transformative litigation, policy advocacy, and education. AB 1666 will protect California abortion providers from civil liabilities when delivering care to patients from other states and allow them to continue their vital work regardless of their patients' home address.

For these reasons, the California Women's Law Center supports AB 1666.

Sincerely,



Betsy Butler
Executive Director

360 North Pacific Coast Highway, Suite 2070 | El Segundo, CA 90245

Phone: 323-951-1041 | Email: cwlc@cwlc.org

www.cwlc.org