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April 17, 2018

The Honorable Ed Hernandez
Chair, Senate Health Committee
State Capitol, Room 2080
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 945 (Atkins) – Support

Dear Senator Hernandez,

On behalf of the California Women's Law Center (CWLC), we write in support of SB 945, which ensures that low-income women in California with breast or cervical cancer receive the medical treatment they need by repealing arbitrary treatment caps in the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program (BCCTP).

The BCCTP provides necessary cancer treatment to low-income, uninsured or underinsured individuals diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer. Currently, the state-funded BCCTP is not aligned with the federally-funded BCCTP, causing gaps in treatment for women that are treated through the state-funded program. Under the state BCCTP, treatment coverage is limited to 18 months for breast cancer and 24 months for cervical cancer. Approximately one in every eight women will have breast cancer during their lifetime. SB 945 allows women to receive the necessary treatment regardless of their income level.

CWLC's mission is to advance the potential of women and girls through transformative litigation, policy advocacy, and education. CWLC believes that every woman should have access to the most trusted and reliable health information, including affordable health care. For nearly 30 years, CWLC has worked to protect the legal rights of women and girls when it comes to health care and coverage.

For these reasons, the California Women's Law Center supports SB 945.

Sincerely,



Betsy Butler
Executive Director