



American Medical Women's Association

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Schaumburg, Illinois 60173 847-517-2801

September 4, 2018

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Request for Signature – SB 320 (Leyva)

Dear Governor Brown,

The American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) is pleased to support Senate Bill 320. This bill will increase access to reproductive health services for students at public universities by providing medication abortion on campus at student health centers.

Now more than ever, California needs to stand firm on increasing access to abortion. Currently none of the student health care centers at California's public universities provide medication abortion services, despite how clinically simple the service is to offer. According to the National Academies of Sciences, abortion care in the U.S. is highly safe, effective, and can be offered in a variety of health settings. Students seeking this basic reproductive health care must travel off campus to access abortion care - often with serious logistical and financial barriers.

AMWA is an organization of women physicians, medical and pre-medical students which functions at the local, national and international level to advance women in medicine and improve women's health. AMWA provides and develops leadership, advocacy, education, expertise, mentoring and strategic alliances.

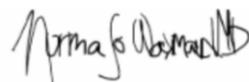
SB320 is funded and easily implemented. SB320 will establish and provide **\$9.6 million dollars to a State Fund**, the *College Student Health Center Sexual and Reproductive Health Preparation Fund*, within the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, that will provide grants of \$200,000 each to all 34 public university student health centers (SHC) to prepare to provide medication abortion and improve methods of pregnancy prevention.

This Fund will ensure that all universities will have the full funding and support necessary to begin providing medication abortion and improve family planning options in their on-campus clinics within three years as set by legislation. California already ensures adequate funding for the provision of medication abortion through Medi-Cal and requirements on private insurance to ensure coverage.

Students should have all the resources to choose what is best for their lives – and with this bill will be able to access those resources and make timely decisions. For these reasons, AMWA strongly urges your signature on SB320 (Leyva).

Sincerely,


Connie Newman, MD, FACP
President
American Medical Women's Association



Norma Jo Waxman, MD
Chair, Advocacy Committee
American Medical Women's Association

cc: Senator Connie Leyva