



March 22, 2018

The Honorable Laura Friedman
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0043

RE: Support for Assembly Bill 2243

Dear Assemblymember Friedman:

The Hollywood Chapter of the National Organization for Women is pleased to support Assembly Bill 2243, which would allow sex workers engaged in acts of prostitution to come forward as a victim or witness to a violent crime, without the fear of prosecution.

Hollywood NOW is a membership organization committed to institutionalizing intersectional gender equity. Our work transgresses over social boundaries and walls built to imprint, reinforce and protect implicit stereotype biases that damage all of us. As a progressive, intersectional feminist organization we advocate for solutions that recognize that individuals face multiple intersecting discriminations/privileges based on race, sex, gender, sexuality and other statuses. We stand to work to eliminate institutional privilege, discrimination, and bias.

AB 2243 will help authorities apprehend and prosecute violent felons while protecting a vulnerable population by empowering them to come out of the shadows. This bill is a critical step in protecting the rights of sex workers while also empowering law enforcement officers to prosecute violent crime offenders.

Hollywood NOW enthusiastically supports this important bill that we hope will spark a larger conversation about the stigmatization sex workers face in today's current society.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (323) 596-7389.

Sincerely,

John Erickson
President,
Hollywood NOW

hollywoodnowchapter@gmail.com

Hollywood Chapter
National Organization for Women
www.hollywoodnow.org

(323) 596-7389