



February 17, 2019

The Honorable Connie Leyva  
Chair of the Senate Education Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2083  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SUPPORT SB 24 (Leyva) - College Student Right to Access Act**

Dear Senator Leyva,

The Hollywood Chapter of the National Organization for Women (Hollywood NOW) is pleased to support Senate Bill 24. This bill will increase access to reproductive health services for students by providing medication abortion at student health centers at public universities. Abortion care is a constitutional right and an essential part of basic reproductive health care.

Currently none of the student health care centers at California's public institutions of higher education provide medication abortion services, despite how clinically simple and safe the service is to offer. Students seeking this basic health care must travel off campus to access it - often with serious logistical and financial barriers. **Over half of all UC and CSU students qualify for Pell Grants.** For low income students especially, paying out-of-pocket at a clinic, securing reliable transportation, missing school and work to determine their options and access timely care are huge obstacles.

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.

California remains the bellwether for reproductive health care legislation and must continue to lead the nation in protecting the academic success and well-being of our students. For these reasons, Hollywood NOW strongly supports SB 24.

Sincerely,

John Erickson  
President  
Hollywood NOW  
cc: Members and Committee Staff, Senate Education Committee