

July 30, 2018



TARA
HEALTH FOUNDATION

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher
Chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee
1020 N Street, Room 2114
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez Fletcher,

Via Email to: Natasha Collins, Principal Consultant, Natasha.Collins@asm.ca.gov

Tara Health Foundation is pleased to represent the Funders Consortium to support implementation of Senate Bill 320. This bill will increase access to reproductive health services for students at public universities by preparing student health centers to provide medication abortion on campus and expand their ability to provide contraceptives to their student body.

As you know, the Funders Consortium, including Tara Health Foundation, the Women's Foundation of California, and other funders have come forward to provide the financial resources for student health centers to prepare to provide medication abortion for students.

We have collectively committed to just under \$20 million dollars in implementation funds ready to be deployed as soon as this important bill becomes law. All of the funders will make donations to a California nonprofit organization that will be responsible for providing the \$9.6 million to the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls for use and distribution according to the June 2018 amended bill:

- \$200,000 grants to each of 34 public university student health centers
- \$200,000 grants to each of the 2 public university systems (UC and CSU)
- \$2.4 million to CCSWG for administering the fund

An additional \$9.875 million dollars will be provided directly to appropriate technical assistance advisors, and an evaluation team, as well as directly funding grants of \$200,000 each for any community colleges or private universities that wish to become ready to provide medication abortion at their student health center.

As an obstetrician and gynecologist, and someone who has provided consultation to systems that began to provide abortion, I can say with certainty that this funding is absolutely adequate to ensure that student health centers are prepared to provide medication abortion for their students.

SB 320 will benefit all public university students who may become pregnant while attending a public university in California. It will help foster a supportive environment where students can concentrate on their studies; have truly comprehensive healthcare; and avoid the added financial, logistical, and emotional burden of seeking necessary reproductive healthcare off campus. Supporting the academic and personal success of students ultimately benefits the state as a whole.

Sincerely,

Ruth Shaber, MD
Founder and President

CC: Senator Connie Leyva, via email to Jessica Golly, Jessica.Golly@sen.ca.gov

rshuber@tarahealthfoundation.org | tarahealthfoundation.org