



September 18, 2019

**VIA Email to the Office of the Governor and Author**

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: SB 329 (Mitchell) – Source of Income Discrimination – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Newsom:

**The League of Women Voters of California writes to request your signature on SB 329 (Mitchell)**, a bill that would help many families with housing choice vouchers or similar housing assistance to find places to rent. Currently, many households receive housing vouchers only to find that they are turned away by landlords and must return their vouchers to the local housing authority.

The League supports policies that increase the supply of safe, decent, adequate housing for all Californians, and provide people with a decent home and a suitable living environment. We believe that vouchers have a proven record of helping poor and working-class families find homes in a diversity of neighborhoods, ensuring that the most vulnerable populations aren't trapped in segregated, poor neighborhoods, or, even worse, find themselves homeless. Furthermore, turning away prospective tenants solely because they want to use housing vouchers has a discriminatory effect, disproportionately impacting communities of color.

Amending the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), to clarify that housing assistance is included as a source of income, follows the lead of many other states, as well as some major California cities. The results of these policies show increased success rates for tenants and that vouchers are better utilized.

**The League of Women Voters of California supports SB 329 as an important tool to help ameliorate California's housing crisis and strongly urges your signature.** Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol Moon Goldberg".

Carol Moon Goldberg  
President