



**San Francisco
Women's
Political**

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April 13, 2009

Supervisor Carmen Chu
San Francisco City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.
Room 244
San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

Dear Supervisor Chu:

The San Francisco Women's Political Committee (SFWPC) is pleased to offer strong support for ordinances 090402 and 090403, which propose new controls for massage establishments and penalties for violations of massage practitioner licensing and regulation ordinances.

SFWPC is the largest women's organization in San Francisco and is committed to educating our members about the issues facing women, engaging them in the political process, and giving them a voice to influence policy. We also strive to work with other women's organizations locally, statewide, and nationally.

SFWPC appreciates and supports you leading the effort to curb the continuing problem of sex slavery in San Francisco. This much needed legislation is an essential first step in reducing the exploitation of girls and women who are often trafficked here from other countries and forced into sexual servitude. Without the legislation, agencies and officials will continue to have no recourse for enforcing laws against massage parlors that act as brothels. These massage parlors have been permitted to operate with impunity for too long in a city that is a major U.S. hub for sex trafficking.

Thank you for your effort to address this important and ongoing problem in San Francisco. We look forward to supporting future efforts to combat sex trafficking in this great city and state.

Best regards,

Shakari Byerly
Policy Committee Chair