

1001 Connecticut Ave, NW Suite 630 Washington DC 20036 202.785.1100

www.nwpc.org info@nwpc.org

NWPC Board of Directors 2021 - 2023 President Donna Lent

1st Vice President & Vice President of Diversity and Outreach Dr. Carmen Schaye

Vice President of Political Planning
Paula Owen Willmarth

Vice President of Board Operations
Jane von Kaenel

Vice President of Communications Kara Briggs

Vice President of Education & Training
Holly Davis

Vice President of Membership Gale Jones Carson

1st Vice President of Development

Dawn Lott

2nd Vice President of Development Jordan Glasgow

> Secretary Sava Berhané

Treasurer Zulfat Suara

NWPC Foundation President
Marta Mattox

STAFF Programs Director Kate McDonald January 20, 2022

Senator Kyrsten Sinema 317 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

and 3333 E. Camelback Rd, Suite 200 Phoenix, AZ 85018, and

20 E. Ochoa St. Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Senator Sinema:

The National Women's Political Caucus eagerly supported your candidacy for the Arizona Senate in 2018. Your campaign platforms showed that you were not only pro-choice, but also strived to advance women, children, families, and the LGBTQ+ community as Senator. While we do not expect you to agree with the Caucus on every issue, we do expect you will do what you can to support legislation that helps women—including negotiating in good faith on measures with which you have concerns.

Based on news coverage, it appears you are not doing that on two vitally important issues for American women: President Biden's "Build Back Better" bill – the most transformative public policy for women and families ever proposed in the United States Congress; and the bills supporting voter protection and access, which hinge on a change in the filibuster rule you stated you oppose.

Respectfully Senator, we do not see how your position on these issues uphold your promise to fight for women and families in the Senate. We hope you will work with your party leaders and Senate colleagues to advance these measures that are so important to addressing historic inequities for women, people of color, LGBTQ+ people, immigrants, and other marginalized groups.

As you know, the filibuster is being used to block important legislation focused on issues of reproductive choice, violence against women, gender equity in education, and the equal rights amendment, among others. These bills, many of which are supported by the majority of Americans, cannot

Page 2' Con't.

even be brought to the floor for debate. Now the filibuster is being used to stop vitally important voting rights measures. We implore you to change your position and support a "carve-out" to the filibuster for voting rights, similar to the carve-out made in 2017 by then Majority Leader McConnell for Supreme Court appointments.

Despite decades of activism, women are still a minority in all governmental positions, elected and appointed. If the women we elect do not do everything possible to address these pivotal issues, who can we turn to?

If we are wrong and you have a plan to accomplish some of the critically important measures that are halted in the Senate - especially human infrastructure and voting rights, which greatly affect women-please share it with us and we will bring it to our membership. We are anxious to hear from you regarding where you are now and what amendments would be needed to change your stance. We strongly believe your campaign promise to be a champion for women and families and urge you to reconsider your course of action and help move these issues forward, even if it means carving an exception in the filibuster.

Sincerely,

Donna Lent, President