



HR0697

LRB101 16774 ECR 66167 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Approximately 40 million people, or 12.3 percent
3 of the U.S. population, were living in poverty as of 2017; 2016
4 Census figures show 5.8 percent of the U.S. population lives in
5 deep poverty with an income 50 percent below the federal
6 poverty line; and

7 WHEREAS, In 2017, 21.1 percent of African American
8 households and 18.3 percent of Hispanic American households
9 were living in poverty; and

10 WHEREAS, Women account for nearly two-thirds of all minimum
11 wage workers in the U.S.; one in eight American women,
12 approximately 16 million, live in poverty or are on the brink
13 of it, and American women are 35 percent more likely to be poor
14 than American men; and

15 WHEREAS, The 2018 Census Bureau found that 58 percent of
16 children in poverty are from single mother households with 35
17 percent of single mothers falling below the level of poverty;
18 any unplanned expense, health emergency, or reduction in work
19 hours or pay can push many female led households over the
20 brink; and

21 WHEREAS, According to a study by the Institute for Women's

1 Policy Research, white women made only 81.1 cents on the dollar
2 and African American women only make 65.3 cents on the dollar
3 when compared to men doing the same work in 2018; and

4 WHEREAS, The National Women's Law Center found that African
5 American women work nearly 20 months for the amount of pay
6 white men make during the calendar year; and

7 WHEREAS, A woman's percentage of pay will drop from 82
8 percent to 69 percent of their male counterparts' earnings over
9 the course of ten years after having graduated college; and

10 WHEREAS, A woman with a master's degree and working a
11 full-time job earns 75 cents on every dollar earned by a man
12 with a master's degree and working a full-time job; and

13 WHEREAS, Almost 60 percent of working women would earn more
14 if there was pay equity, and nearly 65.9 percent of working
15 single mothers would receive a pay increase; and

16 WHEREAS, A 2017 study by the Institute for Women's Policy
17 Research found that providing equal pay to women with similar
18 education and hours of work as their male counterparts would
19 cut poverty among working women by half, and, remarkably, this
20 is true whether women are married, single mothers, or single
21 women living on their own; and

1 WHEREAS, The same study found that gender pay equality for
2 women would generate \$512.6 billion in additional income for
3 the U.S. economy, which is comparable to 2.8 percent of the
4 gross domestic product from 2016; and

5 WHEREAS, The American Association of University Women
6 found that half of all states pay women less than 80 percent of
7 what their male counterparts make; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
9 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we urge the United States Congress to take additional steps
11 towards reducing gender pay inequality for all Americans
12 because when men and women are paid equally for equal work the
13 U.S. economy is improved, and the poverty rate for working
14 women is cut significantly; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That we urge Congress to reintroduce and pass
16 legislation that will promote gender pay equality, thus helping
17 to increase economic self-sufficiency among women; and be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the President of the United States, the Vice
21 President of the United States, all members of the United

1 States House of Representatives the United States Senate, and
2 all members of the Illinois General Assembly.