Co-sponsor and Support the Paycheck Fairness Act (S. 3772)

November 9, 2010

Dear Member of Congress:

On behalf of a broad coalition of organizations that promote economic opportunity for women and full enforcement of the antidiscrimination laws, we strongly urge you to move expeditiously to pass S. 3772, the Paycheck Fairness Act. A companion bill to the Paycheck Fairness Act was passed on a bipartisan basis by the House of Representatives on January 9, 2009.

Congress took an important step in passing the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009. That vital new law reverses the Supreme Court's decision in *Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.* and helps to ensure that individuals subjected to unlawful compensation discrimination are able to effectively assert their rights under the federal anti-discrimination laws. But the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, critical as it is, is just one of many tools needed to address unfair wage disparities.

The Paycheck Fairness Act would deter wage discrimination by closing loopholes in the Equal Pay Act and barring retaliation against workers who disclose their wages. The bill updates and strengthens the Equal Pay Act of 1963 to ensure that it will provide effective protection against sex-based pay discrimination. Toward that end, the measure allows women to receive the same remedies for sex-based pay discrimination that are currently available to those subject to discrimination based on race and national origin. This comprehensive bill also provides for much needed training and technical assistance as well as data collection and research.

Ensuring that women receive equal pay for equal work is a critical component of any effort to stimulate the economy and to ensure self-sufficiency for them and their families. More than four decades after Congress outlawed wage discrimination based on sex, women continue to be paid, on average, only 77 cents for every dollar paid to men. This persistent wage gap can be addressed only if women and all other workers are armed with the tools necessary to challenge discrimination against them, and employers are provided with effective incentives and technical assistance to comply with the law. The Paycheck Fairness Act will help to better address the problem of wage discrimination and eliminate loopholes that have undermined the EPA's effectiveness.

It's time for the Senate to join the House and continue its efforts to make real progress on fair pay. We urge you to co-sponsor and work to swiftly pass the Paycheck Fairness Act. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Fatima Goss Graves, Vice President for Education and Employment at the National Women's Law Center (202/588-5180) or Lisa Maatz, Director of Public Policy and Government Relations at the American Association of University Women (202/785-7720).

Sincerely,

9to5, National Association of Working Women

9to5 Atlanta Working Women

9to5 Bay Area

9to5 Colorado

9to5 Los Angeles

9to5 Milwaukee

Air Force Enlisted Village, Inc.

AFL-CIO

African American Ministers In Action (AAMIA)

Agenda for Children

Alliance for Justice

American Association of University Professors

American Association of University Women (AAUW)

AAUW of Alabama

AAUW of Alaska

AAUW of Arizona

AAUW of Arkansas

AAUW of California

AAUW of Colorado

AAUW of Connecticut

AAUW of Delaware

AAUW of District of Columbia

AAUW of Florida

AAUW of Georgia

AAUW of Hawaii

AAUW of Idaho

AAUW of Illinois

AAUW of Indiana

AAUW of Iowa

AAUW of Kansas

AAUW of Kentucky

AAUW of Louisiana

AAUW of Maine

AAUW of Maryland

AAUW of Massachusetts

AAUW of Michigan

AAUW of Minnesota

AAUW of Mississippi

AAUW of Missouri

AAUW of Montana

AAUW of Nebraska

AAUW of Nevada

AAUW of New Hampshire

AAUW of New Jersey

AAUW of New Mexico

AAUW of New York

AAUW of North Carolina

AAUW of North Dakota

AAUW of Ohio

AAUW of Oklahoma

AAUW of Oregon

AAUW of Pennsylvania

AAUW of Rhode Island

AAUW of South Carolina

AAUW of South Dakota

AAUW of Tennessee

AAUW of Texas

AAUW of Utah

AAUW of Vermont

AAUW of Virginia

AAUW of Washington

AAUW of West Virginia

AAUW of Wisconsin

AAUW of Wyoming

American Bar Association

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

American Library Association-Allied Professional Association

American Psychological Association

American Society on Aging

Arizona Library Association

Asian American Justice Center

Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO

Association for Women in Science

Bazelon Center

Best Consultant

A Better Balance

Blacks in Government, Seattle Chapter

Beyt Tikkun Synagogue

Bucks County Commissioners Advisory Council for Women

Business and Professional Women's Foundation

Business and Professional Women of Maine

Buying Influence, Inc.

Campaign for Community Change

Cause Cards, LLC

Center for American Progress Action Fund

Center for Inquiry Office of Public Policy

Centro Santa Catalina

Chicago Foundation for Women

City of Takoma DV Program

Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

Coalition for Equal Pay (SF Bay Area, CA)

Coalition on Human Needs

Coalition of Labor Union Women

California Capital Chapter, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Central Florida, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Central Indiana Chapter, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Chicago Chapter, Coalition of Labor Union Women

District of Columbia Metropolitan Chapter, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Fort Worth Chapter, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Greater Kansas City Chapter, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Metro Detroit Chapter, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Milehigh Chapter (Denver), Coalition of Labor Union Women

Missouri State Organization, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Philadelphia Chapter, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Puget Sound Chapter, Coalition of Labor Union Women

South Florida Chapter, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Southern New Jersey Chapter, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Southwestern Pennsylvania Chapter, Coalition of Labor Union Women

St. Louis Metro Chapter, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Colorado Coalition for Girls

Colorado Progressive Coalition

Commission on the Status of Women, University of Mississippi

Communications Workers of America

Community Action Partnership

Connecticut Permanent Commission on the Status of Women

Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund

Crittenton Women's Union

CT Permanent Commission on the Status of Women

CWEE: Center for Work Education and Employment

DC Employment Justice Center

DC Women's Agenda

Denver Area Labor Federation

The Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO

Disciples Justice Action Network (Disciples of Christ)

Downers Grove Public Library

The Emily Program

Equal Pay Coalition NYC

Equal Rights Advocates

Equality Now

ERA Campaign Network

Family Focus Aurora

Federally Employed Women

Feminist Majority

Finger Lakes Women's Bar Association

FREE! Families Rally for Emancipation and Empowerment

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Frontera Women Organization

Gender Action

Girls Inc.

Group LTC Services, LLC

Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc.

Holy Family Memorial Sexual Assault Resource Center

Homeday Care

Hope United

Idaho Community Action Network (ICAN)

Idaho Women's Network

Independent Alaskans

International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts, AFL-CIO, CLC, (I.A.T.S.E.)

Local 8 Philadelphia

Local 893 Indianapolis-Bloomington

The Insight Center for Community Economic Development

Interfaith Worker Justice

International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace & Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW)

Iowa Commission on the Status of Women

Jackson Free Press

Jewish Council for Public Affairs

Keystone Research Center

Labor Project for Working Families

Latina Initiative

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights

League of United Latin American Citizens

Legal Momentum

Louisiana Library Association

Maggie's Poetic Delights

Maine Women's Health Campaign

Maine Women's Lobby

Maternity Care Coalition

MomsRising

Montgomery County Commission for Women

MS ASPIRE

Myra Sadker Foundation

NAACP

NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc.

National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd

National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity

National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum

National Association of Commissions for Women

National Association of Mothers' Centers

National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health

National Association of Social Workers

National Capital Area Union Retirees

National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

National Committee on Pay Equity

National Congress of Black Women, Inc.

National Council of Jewish Women

NCJW Colorado State Public Affairs

NCJW Connecticut State Public Affairs

NCJW Illinois State Public Affairs

NJCW Southern Maine Section

NCJW New Jersey State Public Affairs

NCJW Ohio State Public Affairs

NCJW Texas State Public Affairs

NCJW Virginia State Public Affairs

National Council of La Raza

National Council of Women's Organizations

National Education Association

National Employment Law Project

National Employment Lawyers Association

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Action Fund

National Organization for Women

Akron Area National Organization for Women

Alabama NOW

Arizona NOW

Arkansas NOW

The Beaver County PA Chapter of NOW

Brooklyn-Queens NOW

Chicago Chapter of the National Organization for Women

Detroit Chapter, National Organization for Women

First Pittsburgh Chapter, National Organization for Women

Greater Boston Chapter of the National Organization for Women

Greater New Haven Chapter of NOW

Iowa City Area NOW

Kansas National Organization for Women

Macomb County Chapter of the National Organization for Women

Madison National Organization for Women

Middlesex County NOW-NJ

New York City NOW

North Dallas Chapter of National Organization of Women

NOW, Charlotte Chapter

NOW, Connecticut Chapter

NOW- Mid Suffolk Chapter, Stony Brook, NY

NOW, Rochester Chapter

Orange County National Organization for Women

PA Montgomery County NOW Chapter

Palm Springs Area NOW

Peoria Chapter of NOW

South Palm Beach County NOW

South Shore NOW

Tallahassee National Organization for Women

Tucson Chapter, National Organization for Women

West Virginia National Organization for Women

National Partnership for Women & Families

National Women's Conference Committee

National Women's Law Center

National Women's Political Caucus

National Youth Advocacy Coalition (NYAC)

Network of Spiritual Progressives

New York Women's Agenda

N Street Village

Northwestern Mutual - The Lexington Group

Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc.

OWL - The Voice of Midlife and Older Women

Paso del Norte Civil Rights Project

Paterson Public Library

PathWaysPA

Pennsylvania Council of Churches

People For the American Way

Phoenix Women's Commission

PR One Stop Career Center of PR Inc.

Pride and a Paycheck News

Pride At Work, AFL-CIO

Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (PLAN)

Project Kid Smart

Project Single Moms Worldwide, Inc.

Quad County Urban League

Rabbinical Assembly

Rights for All People

Robin H. Thompson & Associates

Roundtable of Food Professionals-NYC Inc.

Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

Schreiber UE Rehab

Service Employees International Union (SEIU)

Sisters in the Building Trades

South Dakota Women Work

Southeast Technical Institute

St. John's School

Transport Workers Union

Unid@s - National Latina/o Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Human Rights Organization

United Food and Commercial Workers International Union, Local 23

United Methodist Church, General Board of Church & Society

United States Student Association

United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union, Local 3657

Union for Reform Judaism

United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries

Univision Radio

U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce

Utah Library Association

Tikkun Magazine

The WAGE Project, Inc.

West Virginia Library Association

Westchester County Office for Women

Wider Opportunities for Women

Winning Strategies

Women At Work

Women At Work, Pasadena

Women Employed

Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

Women Networking in Southern Delaware, Inc.

Women of Reform Judaism

Women Thrive Worldwide

The Women's Bureau

Women's City Club

Women's Commission - Jacksonville, FL

Women's Foundation of California

Women's Information Network (WIN)

Women's Intercultural Center

Women's Law Center of Maryland, Inc.

Women's Law Project

Women's League for Conservative Judaism

Women's Research & Education Institute (WREI)

Women's Resource Center

Women's Sports Foundation

Workmen's Circle/Arbeter Ring

YWCA USA

Elyria/Lorain YWCA

Northeast Council of YWCA's

Young Women's Christian Association of Tampa Bay, Inc.

YWCA Adirondack Foothill

YWCA Anchorage

YWCA Aurora

YWCA Bergen County

YWCA Berkeley/Oakland

YWCA Binghamton and Broome County

YWCA Brooklyn

YWCA Bucks County

YWCA Carlisle

YWCA Central Alabama

YWCA Central New Jersey

YWCA City of New York

YWCA Clark County

YWCA Cortland

YWCA Darien and Norwalk

YWCA Eastern Union

YWCA Elmira and Twin Tiers

YWCA El Paso del Norte Region

YWCA Essex and West Hudson

YWCA Genesee County

YWCA Greater Baton Rouge

YWCA Greater Northern RI

YWCA Greenwich

YWCA Harbor Area and South Bay

YWCA Hartford Region

YWCA Jamestown

YWCA Lake County

YWCA Lower Cape Fear

YWCA Metropolitan Chicago

YWCA Mohawk Valley

YWCA Niagara

YWCA Northeast Indiana

YWCA of Bergen County

YWCA of Binghamton and Broome County

YWCA of Bogalusa, LA

YWCA of Brunswick

YWCA of Cortland, NY

YWCA of Essex and West Hudson

YWCA of Fort Dodge, IA

YWCA of Greater Milwaukee

YWCA of Greater Portland

YWCA of Green Bay - DePere

YWCA of Hanover

YWCA of Jamestown

YWCA of Medina County

YWCA of Metropolitan Detroit

YWCA of Quincy

YWCA of St. Joseph County

YWCA of the Adirondack Foothills

YWCA of the Greater Baltimore Area, Inc.

YWCA of the Greater Capital Region

YWCA of the Hartford Region

YWCA of the Mohawk Valley

YWCA of the Sauk Valley

YWCA of the Upper Lowlands, Inc.

YWCA of Titusville (PA)

YWCA Orange County

YWCA Pasadena-Foothill Valley

YWCA Princeton

YWCA Queens

YWCA Rochester and Monroe County

YWCA Schenectady

YWCA Sioux Falls

YWCA Southeast Region

YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts

YWCA Syracuse and Onondaga County

YWCA Tucson

YWCA Tonawandas

YWCA Trenton

YWCA Troy-Cohoes

YWCA Ulster

YWCA Western Massachusetts

YWCA Western New York

YWCA Westfield

YWCAs of the Northeast Region