



Maine Women's Lobby

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Ledbetter Fair Pay Act Signed into Law

Maine Women's Lobby Applauds Maine Congressional Delegation For Taking Action to Support Fair Pay

(Augusta) Today the Maine Women's Lobby commends President Barack Obama for signing the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. "By promoting and signing the Ledbetter Fair Pay Act – President Obama put the issue of pay discrimination where it belongs – at the top of the economic agenda," said Sarah Standiford, Executive Director of the Maine Women's Lobby. "Unequal pay doesn't just harm women, it weakens the economic security of families. We're proud that the entire Maine Congressional Delegation recognized this and took leadership in moving the bill forward through Congress."

Passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act reverses the U.S. Supreme Court decision that made it impossible to win pay discrimination cases that were filed after 180 days of the pay being set, and restores the long-standing interpretation of civil rights laws and policies that allow employees to challenge any discriminatory paycheck they receive.

"The Ledbetter Fair Pay Act is an important fix to a critical problem, but it's only the first step in making progress against the gender wage gap. We have a long way to go," said Standiford. Congress can take steps to narrow the wage gap by strengthening enforcement and education through the Paycheck Fairness Act. Here in Maine, Senator Deborah Simpson has introduced "An Act to Ensure Fair Pay," which will prevent employees from being penalized for comparing salary information when they think a pay discrepancy exists. The Maine Women's Lobby calls upon Maine lawmakers and leaders in Congress to continue their leadership in support of fair pay.

The Maine Women's Lobby is a non-partisan, non-profit membership organization working since 1978 to increase opportunities for women and girls through advocacy and legislative action.

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