

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1003

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Encouraging recognition of the current gender wage gap and calling for the enforcement of equal pay for equal work laws.

WHEREAS, women comprise nearly half of the work force in the United States, with South Dakota ranking in the top ten states with the highest percentage of women in the workforce; and

WHEREAS, the exceptional work ethic of midwestern women is also reflected by high rates of women in the workforce in our neighboring states; and

WHEREAS, the average female employee makes only seventy-nine cents to every dollar a male employee makes for similar work and similar skills in the United States and only seventy-six cents to the dollar in South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, despite the fact that South Dakota currently requires equal pay for equal work pursuant to §§ 60-12-15, 60-12-28, and 60-12-21 women in South Dakota still see nearly twenty-five percent less pay than their male counterparts; and

WHEREAS, the state has granted the Department of Labor and Regulation the authority to enforce all labor laws regarding gender discrimination, pursuant to § 60-5-11; and

WHEREAS, South Dakota understands and recognizes the value of its female citizens and their contribution to the workforce and home:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-First Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the South Dakota Legislature recognizes the current wage gap between men and women in the state and encourages the Department of Labor and Regulation to enforce the laws in place to prevent the injustice of unequal pay for equal skills.

Adopted by the House of Representatives,
Concurred in by the Senate,

January 27, 2016
February 2, 2016

Dean Wink
Speaker of the House

Arlene Kvislen
Chief Clerk of the House

Matt Michels
President of the Senate

Kay Johnson
Secretary of the Senate