

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 219

BY REPRESENTATIVE COX

A RESOLUTION

To commend Ms. Lilly Ledbetter on her fight for wage equality and for being a participant in the American Association of University Women National Convention in New Orleans.

WHEREAS, Lilly Ledbetter, born Lilly McDaniel, was born on April 18, 1938; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, Lilly Ledbetter became employed by Goodyear Tire and Rubber, where she worked until her retirement in 1998; and

WHEREAS, as the only female area manager, Lilly Ledbetter was paid three thousand seven hundred twenty-seven dollars per month compared to a salary range of four thousand two hundred eighty-six dollars to five thousand two hundred thirty-six dollars per month for male area managers; and

WHEREAS, after learning that she had been paid significantly less than her male counterparts for years, Lilly Ledbetter brought suit against her employer in 2007, alleging pay discrimination under the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

WHEREAS, in a five-four decision, the Supreme Court of the United States found that prescription began at the time the decision was made to give Ms. Ledbetter discriminatory pay, and thus her suit had prescribed; and

WHEREAS, immediately after the supreme court decision, congress proposed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which failed to pass the Senate; and

WHEREAS, the next year, the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 was finally passed, and provided that the one hundred eighty day prescription period begins anew with each act of discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 amended the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and was signed into law by President Obama on January 29, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Lilly Ledbetter is well known as a strong women's equality activist who bravely fought to achieve equal rights for every person regardless of sex; and

WHEREAS, on average, women in the United States are paid seventy-seven cents for every dollar men are paid; and

WHEREAS, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) provides support and leadership in equity and equality issues within higher education as well as the larger society; and

WHEREAS, the AAUW has also played a consistent and crucial role in getting legislation passed to formally support equitable treatment for women; and

WHEREAS, women like Lilly Ledbetter embody the ideals embraced by the AAUW; and

WHEREAS, the AAUW is holding a national convention in New Orleans June 9 through 12, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Lilly Ledbetter will be a respected panelist and participant in the convention; and

WHEREAS, Lilly Ledbetter and the AAUW have brought awareness to wage discrimination in our country, and have made an enormous difference for future generations of women with their fight for equality.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana celebrates the passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Equal Pay Act of 2009.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Ms. Lilly Ledbetter on her fight for wage equality and for being a panelist and participant in the American Association of University Women National Convention in New Orleans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Lilly Ledbetter.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES