

ZONTA CLUB LETTERHEAD

(DATE)

The Honorable _____
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

RE: PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

Dear Senator _____:

On behalf of Zonta Club of _____, we urge your support of the Paycheck Fairness Act. . Our local club located in _____, represents _____ members. Zonta is an international service organization in 66 countries whose mission is to advance the status of women. The region called District 12 is comprised of four states—Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota and Montana where there are 21 clubs and almost 700 members.

Although women have made significant gains in education over the past several decades, these achievements have not translated into pay equity. Despite the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and the Civil Rights Act of 1964, women continue to earn an average of 77 cents on the dollar compared to their male counterparts. Because the gender pay gap persists, improvements to federal equal pay laws are needed.

The Paycheck Fairness Act (S 797/H.R. 1519) was passed by the US House in January, 2009 with a bipartisan vote. The bill has widespread support among men and women: Republicans, Democrats, and Independents. Unfortunately the bill was defeated in the Senate on a 58-41 procedural vote in November, 2010.

We are confident that you understand the basic justice of equal pay for equal work. Please sign on as a co-sponsor of these bills and work to get them enacted into law.

Sincerely,

President of Zonta Club of _____