

**WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (D-MD) released the following statement today on Equal Pay Day:**

"Today on Equal Pay Day, we mark how far into the year a woman must work, on average, before equaling the amount of money earned by a man during the previous calendar year. It is an outrage that in 2008, women still earn a mere 77 cents for every dollar earned by a man. The numbers for minority women and older women are even worse, and a demonstration of the inequity still present in today's society.

"Last July, the House passed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which protects workers who are subjected to pay discrimination. As the Senate takes this bill up tomorrow, there is nothing more appropriate it could do to honor Equal Pay Day than to support this legislation.

"As the father of three daughters, I believe we must do all we can to make equal pay a reality. Women across this nation are working to support themselves and their families. In light of our weakening economy, it is imperative that we ensure that workers regardless of gender, race, or religion receive equal pay for equal work."

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