



JOHN A. KITZHABER, MD
Governor

February 6, 2015

The Honorable Paul Holvey
Members of the House Business and Labor Committee
H-277 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Holvey and Members of the House Business and Labor Committee:

I want to commend you in tackling the issue of pay equity. This was an issue of significant discussion during my last campaign and is one I take very seriously. As you are aware, two-thirds of working women in Oregon are the primary or co-breadwinners in their families, yet women earn 79 cents on the dollar compared to what men earn in comparable jobs. Closing this gap is not only an issue of fairness, but one that will also help grow our economy and help working families.

Through the provisions contained in HBs 2006 and 2007, and efforts to enforce existing statutes regarding pay equity, we can make a real change in Oregon toward ensuring people are compensated based on their skill sets and efforts, not on their gender.

Thank you for your work on this important issue.

Sincerely,

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.
Governor

JAK:ehm