

## Newell Bill

---

**From:** Lockwood Jonathan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 17, 2017 11:44 AM  
**Subject:** UPDATED: JOINT STATEMENT: Bipartisan Oregon Equal Pay Act passes Senate



## SENATE REPUBLICAN OFFICE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
May 17, 2017

Jonathan Lockwood  
Communications Director  
971-645-2140

## **JOINT STATEMENT: Bipartisan Oregon Equal Pay Act passes Senate**

SALEM, Ore.—Oregon is on its way to better ensuring employers compensate workers equal pay for equal work. Today, the Senate passed the Oregon Equal Pay Act, [House Bill 2005 B](#), to encourage companies, large and small, to determine if they engage in pay inequity and gives them tools needed to correct compensation practices.

**Senate Republican Deputy Leader Tim Knopp, of Bend, offered the following statement:**

*“The Senate refined a critical piece of legislation that will help protect workers from the pay inequity. It is 2017, not 1817, it is about time we crafted a sound, workable solution. Passing the Oregon Equal Pay Act is another recent example of the tremendous work that can be done in the Legislature when both parties work together to improve the lives of all Oregonians.”*

**Democrat state Sen. Kathleen Taylor, of Portland, offered the following statement:**

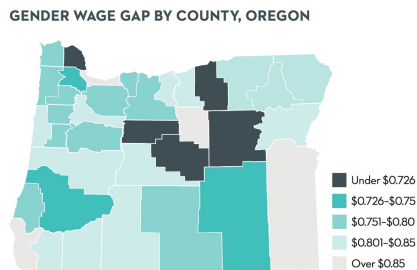
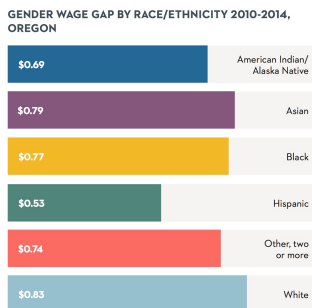
*“I am grateful for the hard work of my committee, including my vice chair Sen. Knopp. I appreciate his ability to bring a variety of stakeholders to the table to get consensus on this bill. I am confident House Bill 2005 will be meaningful for workers across Oregon to ensure they receive the compensation they deserve.”*

The Center for Public Service (CPS) was engaged by the Oregon state government Chief Human Resource Office (CHRO) to examine and identify pay gaps that exist among employees within the executive branch. The results of the regression analysis consistently show a pattern of difference in pay levels showing that in Oregon males earn more than females and that non-minorities earn more than minorities.

Additionally, when looking at the combination of these traits, the median results consistently show that minority females experience the lowest median monthly base pay, while non-minority males receive the highest median monthly base pay. Females in the executive branch are predicted to earn \$380.34 a month less than males in their monthly base pay and minorities are predicted to earn \$92.11 a month less than non-minorities in their monthly base pay. Even more detailed, broken-down analysis can be viewed [here](#). A supplemental report can be viewed [here](#).

According to the [2016 Women’s Foundation report entitled Count Her In](#), Oregon women earn between 53 and 83 cents for every dollar men in Oregon earn. The problem exists, and is more acute for those with intersectional identities. The county-by-county earnings analysis in Oregon reveals that Oregon women face a substantially different wage gap based on where they live.

From the Women’s Foundation:



Per dollar earned by all men  
Source: ECONorthwest analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 PUMS 5-year estimate data

Source: ECONorthwest analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 PUMS 5-year estimate data

According to the Oregon Commission for Women the need for equal pay in Oregon is supported by data from the U.S. Census Bureau. The commission says that analysis shows women are paid just 81

cents for every dollar paid to men. The situation is increases in severity when it comes to women of color.

Among women in Oregon who work full-time, year-round black women are paid 68 cents, Latina women are paid 51 cents and Asian women are paid 79 cents, for every dollar paid to a white male. These lower earnings impact women and their families, especially the 23 percent of families headed by single mothers.

“In practical terms, this means women and their families have less money to support themselves, spend on goods and services, and save for the future,” said the commission in [testimony](#) during the bill’s movement through the Legislature.

Workers with disabilities who have at least a high school education earn 37 percent less on average than their peers without disabilities, a disparity costing federal and state governments up to \$31.5 billion in potential tax revenue, according to Disability Rights Oregon Executive Director Bob Joondeph. Joondeph pointed out workers with disabilities earn 64 cents for every dollar their non-disabled colleagues earn.

**The bill now moves back to the House for further consideration.**

###

**For follow-up commentary please contact Senate Republican Communications Director Jonathan Lockwood at 971-645-2140, or [Jonathan.Lockwood@OregonLegislature.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Lockwood@OregonLegislature.gov).**

Jonathan Lockwood  
Senate Republican Communications Director  
971-645-2140