



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

PAUL HEROUX
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
2ND BRISTOL DISTRICT

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RE: S2119 An Act to establish pay equity
DT: 16 March 2016

Dear Chairman Dempsey and Members of the House Committee on Ways and Means,

I implore you to favorably release *S2119, An Act to establish Pay Equity* so that the House may pass this bill and move it towards Governor Baker's desk. The bill was passed unanimously by the Senate in late January.

In the Commonwealth, women make up approximately half the workforce but make approximately 18% less than their male counterparts. This is unacceptable anywhere but particularly in the Commonwealth where we pride ourselves on equality. The bill seeks to level the playing field between men and women by defining comparable work, banning the practice of asking for prior pay history during the hiring process, and by forbidding the termination of an employee if he or she discloses their pay to co-workers or colleagues. This bill would benefit every citizen in the Commonwealth.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this bill. I respectfully request that *S2119, An Act to establish pay equity* released favorably and expeditiously from your committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Heroux".

Paul Heroux