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1 SENATE RESOLUTION 2 WHEREAS, The future of our nation's productivity and 3 competitiveness in the global marketplace depends on the 4 success of all men and women; and 5 WHEREAS, Women have been discriminated against 6 education, the workplace, and society as a whole; and 7 WHEREAS, Women continue to earn no more than 80 cents on 8 the dollar compared to men; and 9 WHEREAS, The wage gap is even greater for most women of color; African American Women earn 63 cents on the dollar and 10 11 Latina Women earn 54 cents on the dollar; and 12 WHEREAS, The pay gap has been shown to start as soon as one year after college; this inequality affects not only women, but 13 14 their families and society as a whole; and 15 WHEREAS, The pay gap between women and men has long-term 16 effects on women's economic security; such a gap affects 17 women's Social Security earnings, their ability to save for retirement, and their children's education; and 18

WHEREAS, Pay equity is closely linked to the eradication of

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1 poverty and is essential to having a highly-motivated

2 workforce; and

WHEREAS, Equal Pay Day was originated by the National Committee on Pay Equity in 1996 as a public awareness event to illustrate the gap between men's and women's wages; the day, observed in April, symbolizes how far into the year a woman must work, on average, to earn as much as a man earned the previous year, with Tuesday being the day in which women's wages catch up to men's wages from the previous week; because women earn less on average than men, they must work longer for the same amount of pay; this wage gap is even greater for most women of color; and

13 WHEREAS, Equal pay is a priority for all women and for our society at large; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare April 10, 2018 as Pay Equity Day in the State of Illinois in order to raise awareness about this endemic inequity.