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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION WHEREAS, The future of our nation's productivity and 2 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, Nationally, women continue to earn no more than 8 82 cents on the dollar compared to men; in Illinois, women earn 9 78 cents on the dollar compared to men; and 10 WHEREAS, The wage gap is even greater for most women of 11 color; African American women earn 62 cents on the dollar and 12 Latina women earn 54 cents on the dollar; and 13 WHEREAS, The pay gap has been shown to start as soon as one 14 year after college; this inequality affects not only women, but their families and society as a whole; and 15 16 WHEREAS, The pay gap between women and men has long-term 17 effects on women's economic security; such a gap affects 18 women's Social Security earnings, their ability to save for 19 retirement, and their children's education; and

- 1 WHEREAS, Pay equity is closely linked to the eradication 2 of poverty and is essential to having a highly-motivated
- 3 workforce; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Equal Pay Day was originated by the National 5 Committee on Pay Equity in 1996 as a public awareness event to 6 illustrate the gap between men's and women's wages; the day 7 symbolizes how far into the year a woman must work, on average, 8 to earn as much as a man earned the previous year, with Tuesday 9 being the day in which women's wages catch up to men's wages 10 from the previous week; because women earn less on average 11 than men, they must work longer for the same amount of pay; this wage gap is even greater for most women of color; and 12
- WHEREAS, Equal pay is a priority for all women and for our society at large; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
 we declare March 24, 2021 as Pay Equity Day in the State of
 Illinois in order to raise awareness about this endemic
 inequity.