

part of our culture. We're pleased that PBS and the Grammys chose Memphis soul to be featured tonight. The President will be there. Without AL GREEN, he'll have to do "Let's Stay Together" by himself. We look forward to that.

We ask all of you to come to Memphis, Tennessee, and visit America's great reservoir of music history.

CITY OF IRVING, TEXAS, AWARD-ED 2012 MALCOLM BALDRIDGE NATIONAL QUALITY AWARD

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the city of Irving on the receipt of the 2012 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. This award is the Nation's highest Presidential honor for performance excellence through innovation, improvement, and visionary leadership.

Irving, Texas, is not just about lower tax rates and efficient government; the city of Irving prioritizes feedback from its citizens, achieving high levels of citizen satisfaction and producing almost \$45 million in cost savings over the past 5 years. Through the implementation of the Lean Six Sigma program, the city of Irving, Texas, has lowered tax rates for its citizens, improved the quality of services, and maintained an efficient workforce.

I congratulate the city of Irving on its receipt of this award, and I hope that the Federal Government in Washington, D.C., can learn from their example.

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, today, April 9, is Equal Pay Day, the day on the calendar that marks more than 3 months into 2013 when women's wages finally catch up to what men earned in 2012.

Nearly a half century after the passage of the Equal Pay Act, women continue to face unfairness in the workplace. According to the American Association of University Women, in Rhode Island's First Congressional District, women working full time, year round, still make only 83 cents on the dollar compared to the average man.

For all the progress that we've made in the fight for women's rights, the issue of pay equity continues to persist. That's why I'm proud to voice my strong support for the Paycheck Fairness Act, a commonsense bill that would strengthen the Equal Pay Act by providing effective remedies for women who are not paid equal wages for equal work.

It's time for us to prioritize the long-term well-being of the Nation's hard-working women, many of whom are heads of households, and immediately

pass this critical legislation to help ensure equality in the workplace.

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HONORING THE SERVICE OF THE 3RD U.S. INFANTRY REGIMENT, THE OLD GUARD

(Mr. PITTENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the men and women of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, better known as The Old Guard, who, for 65 years, have faithfully guarded the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery.

Saturday, April 6, was the 65th anniversary of this Honor Guard, which continuously watches over the Tomb of the Unknowns 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, through all kinds of weather.

Many don't know that the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment pulls double duty, also maintaining tactical readiness, prepared to defend Washington in the event of war or other crisis.

The Tomb, of course, holds the remains of select unknown soldiers from World Wars I and II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. While only God knows their names, they represent men and women who died defending our freedoms. We should all be proud to live in a country that continues to honor their sacrifice, a country that doesn't forget that freedom isn't free.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking the soldiers of The Old Guard for their vigilance and dedication.

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Equal Pay Day. Today is a day I wish we didn't have to mark. After 99 days of 2013, women have finally caught up with what their male coworkers earned last year.

And while unequal pay clearly hurts women, it also affects their families. The additional \$11,000 a woman would make each year if she was fairly compensated would pay for a year and a half of child care, or feed a family of four with money to spare.

As we continue to pull out of the recession, every dollar matters, and that is why hardworking women across this Nation are counting on us to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act and close this gap for good.

We are listening, and we must act. Our sisters, our daughters, and our granddaughters deserve nothing less.

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

(Mr. HORSFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, today is an important day in women's history and our country's history. It is the 50th anniversary of the Equal Pay Act, a reminder of the progress we have made in the fight for equality, and a reminder that the fight is not over.

Nationally, women earn 77 cents on the dollar compared to their male coworkers. In my State of Nevada, it's 85 cents to the dollar. No matter the degree of disparity, unequal pay for equal work is wrong.

Women head over 125,000 households in Nevada. Closing the wage gap would provide needed and deserved income for these families and all families across the country.

I'm the father of a bright young daughter. I want the best for her and for young women across the country who have great contributions to make to our Nation, and that's why I urge passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act.

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

(Mr. POCAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I stand with my colleagues to highlight Equal Pay Day and call on this body to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act.

Equal pay for equal work not only adheres to our country's founding principles of justice and equality, but it makes a huge difference to the families in Wisconsin. In my district, women are paid 81 cents to the dollar that men earn, and across the State of Wisconsin, the number is even lower, 78 cents. That equals \$10,324 less in wages a year between a man and a woman.

What does \$10,324 mean?

Well, it means almost 2,800 gallons of gas. It means more than a year's worth of groceries and almost a year's worth of rent.

The pay gap has a real effect on the families of Wisconsin. Almost 230,000 households in Wisconsin are headed by women, and almost a third of those fall below the poverty line. Eliminating the wage gap would provide much-needed assistance to women whose families depend on those salaries.

I am proud to cosponsor the Paycheck Fairness Act, which makes important strides towards ensuring that women finally receive equal pay for equal work. This bill improves the lives of Wisconsin women, Wisconsin families, and Wisconsin communities. We have an urgent moral need to pass it.

GENDER GAP IN THE UNITED STATES

(Mr. DELANEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, last year almost 58 percent of college graduates were women, and women now account for over half of the college-educated population. In corporate America, women were 53 percent of new