

ranking woman in Congress, NANCY PELOSI, I issue a challenge to my colleagues and to the incoming freshman class: Pass the Women's Equality Amendment, also known as the Equal Rights Amendment in the 108th Congress!

We are in a new millennium, and we cannot continue to leave women behind. Times have changed, but the purposes of the Women's Equality Amendment remains the same. It's simple concept: Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

On March 22, 2001, I was joined by a group of my male colleagues from the House and Senate as we re-introduced the Women's Equality Amendment with over 160 original cosponsors. At the end of the 107th Congress, we have a record 210 cosponsors. We have worked too hard and too long to see these advances dashed as we enter a new legislative session. We must use the momentum we've established to launch an full-fledged campaign to pass the Women's Equality Amendment. We cannot wait another thirty years. For the sake of our daughters, we should not wait. Now is the time.

Thirty years ago, the Women's Equality Amendment passed the House, but a time limit was added. It was eventually ratified by 35 states, just 3 states shy of final ratification. This is why House Judiciary Chair Rodino re-introduced the Women's Equality Amendment in 1982. We have been trying to pass this legislation ever since. Don't get me wrong. Progress has been made. There are now 61 women Members of Congress and 13 women Senators compared to 1972's grand total of one woman Senator and 10 women Members.

In modern America, after five decades of legal and legislative advices for women, it may seem to some that the Women's Equality Amendment is not needed. But the fact is women do not enjoy full, and equal protection under the law.

Yes, we have a patchwork and piecemeal set of legal protections that try to ensure equality under the law; the Equal Protection Clause, Title IX, the Equal Pay Act, the Pregnancy Discrimination Act. However, laws can be changed, repealed or swept away. It is a glaring gap in our body of laws that women do not enjoy the full force of constitutional protection. Gender must have the same level of judicial review as the other protections that combat the many forms of discrimination.

Women are paid less than their equally male counterparts in the workforce, just seventy three cents for each dollar the man earns.

In fact, many of you may know, that last January, Congressman JOHN DINGELL and I released a report title "A New Look Throughout the Glass Ceiling." The results were truly astonishing. Our study, based on data generated by the General Accounting Office, showed that women managers were actually losing ground to their male counterparts. In all ten industries studied, which employ 71 percent of U.S. women workers and 73 percent of U.S. women managers, full-time women managers earned less than men in both 1995 and 2000.

But I was truly shocked that in seven of the ten industries, the earning gap between full-time women and men managers actually widened between 1995 and 2000.

As this report shows, when our nation was at its strongest. We didn't spread the wealth, we grew the disparity.

The Supreme Court did not advance the protections for women in sex discrimination cases, however women still have a stricter burden of proof to prove discrimination than do racial minorities. Ironically, a white male claiming race discrimination has a stronger legal standing than a black female claiming sex discrimination by the same employer or action.

In some states, a group of women cannot joint together to rent a home, While several men could, because ancient state laws consider women a greater risk of using that group home for illicit sexual activities.

Overriding all of these examples is the simple fact that equal protection for men is guaranteed by the Constitution, and equal rights for women are secured at the whim of politicians and jurists. Any Congress or legislature or judge could roll back the gains women have secured in the last half century without risk the ultimate Constitutional penalty.

Across America and in this Congress, that simple reality is being recognized more and more. The 210 co-sponsors of the Women's Equality Amendment is the highest for any Congress since 1983, the last time it reached the floor of the House.

It will not be long before an overwhelming majority of this House, and then this Congress, will endorse the Women's Equality Amendment once again, and repair a travesty in our nation's history.

Within this short, but essential, statement, women will be on their way to enjoying equal status in society. We must gather together, men and women on both sides of the aisle and pass the Women's Equality Amendment once and for all.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MINNESOTA VISITING NURSE AGENCY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2002

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great honor to recognize the vital contributions to public health made by the Minnesota Visiting Nurse Agency throughout its 100 years of service. Founded in 1902 by women in the Minneapolis community, the MVNA has grown from a single Public Health Nurse into an indispensable public health organization serving thousands of patients every year. Today the MVNA provides crucial public health services to the Twin Cities community including care for families and children, care for adults and the elderly, and hospice care for the terminally ill. It is my great pleasure to extend congratulations to the Minnesota Visiting Nurse Agency on its 100th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO GRANDMASTER
GEORGE A. DILLMAN

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Grandmaster George A. Dillman on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

George A. Dillman, a 9th degree black belt in ryukyu kempo tomari-te, was honored by Black Belt Magazine in 1997 as "Instructor of the Year." He is one of the USA's best-known and well-established martial arts personalities. There are many who believe Mr. Dillman has contributed more to the body of martial arts knowledge available to the public, than anyone else in the 20th century.

Mr. Dillman came to the attention of the martial arts press when he began competing in the early 1960's. By the middle of that decade, he had started running his own tournament, called the Northeast Open Karate Championships. This competition was held annually for many years.

Official Karate Magazine (Nov. 1982) described Dillman as "one of the winningest competitors karate has ever know." Dillman was four-times national karate champion (1969-1972) and during this period was consistently ranked among the top ten competitors in the nation by major karate magazines. During his nine-year competitive career, Dillman claimed a total of 327 trophies in fighting, forms, breaking and weapons.

Dillman began serious martial arts training in 1961 with Harry G. Smith. He went on to study with Daniel K. Pai, Robert Trias and Seiyu Oyata. Dillman has always considered himself a student, never a master of the martial arts. To this end he and his students have traveled throughout the United States to meet and train with various martial arts experts.

Because of his perseverance, Dillman's martial arts talents have earned him widespread U.S. media coverage. He has appeared on 34 national TV shows, including, Real People, Mike Douglas, PM Magazine, Evening Magazine, and NBC's Sports Machine. Dillman has also been featured five times in Ripley's Believe it or not, and has been the subject of over 300 newspaper and magazine articles. Dillman, who was a professional boxer for three and one half years, is the only person known to have trained with both Bruce Lee and Muhammad Ali. In May of 1988, Dillman was inducted into the Berks County Sports Hall of Fame. He was the first martial artist to be so included. Currently, Dillman travels the world teaching seminars on pressure points and tuite (grappling) hidden within the traditional movements of the old martial arts forms. It is his research and scientific dissection of the old forms that is earning him his most notoriety.

Never one to shy away from controversy, Dillman has rediscovered a formerly secret level of meaning for kata movements, and has made that interpretation understandable to all. He has produced a video tape instructional series on the pressure points, and has written six books with Chris Thomas, and Grandmaster Kimberly Fritz Dillman, herself a two-time U.S. National Champion: Kyusho-Jitsu: The Dillman Method of Pressure Point Fighting; Advanced Pressure Point Fighting of