

The American dream is undermined daily as women are denied equal pay for equal work. The most generous estimates find Asian American women making 87 cents on the dollar; African American women making 71 cents; and Hispanic women make only 62 cents. The disparity exists across all levels of education and occupation.

Four years ago today, on January 29, 2009, President Obama signed his first bill into law, the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which overturned the 180-day statute of limitations for women to contest pay discrimination. In his Inaugural Address on January 21, 2013, President Obama stated: “[Our] journey is not complete until our wives, our mothers and daughters can earn a living equal to their efforts.” This marks just the second time in our nation’s history that equal pay has been raised at an inauguration, and sends a strong message that guaranteeing equal pay for equal work will be a key priority during President Obama’s second term.

In honor of the four year anniversary of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, let us build on this momentum with a call to action: let’s pass a bi-cameral, bi-partisan Paycheck Fairness Act to end pay discrimination once and for all