

The wage gap is even bigger for African-American and Latino women. African-American women are paid just 60 cents. Hispanic women are paid just 55 cents. We can't allow this discrimination to continue.

The wage gap is a national problem. It affects all women, and the Senate must take action. The Paycheck Fairness Act is a good place to start.

I have long supported this bill, which is sponsored by Senator BARBARA MIKULSKI. The Paycheck Fairness Act would protect women from retaliation if they ask about wages and require employers to justify paying women less than men for the same job.

Women often don't know they are being paid less than men, and making the system more transparent will help reduce the wage gap. The bill would also make it easier for women to take legal action under the Equal Pay Act, including class action lawsuits.

Under current law, it is significantly easier to recoup lost wages if they were denied through other discriminatory practices, like failure to pay overtime. Lastly, the bill would create a training program to help women negotiate their salaries.

This is a commonsense bill and one that is long overdue. President John F. Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act in 1963. At the time, women made 59 cents for every dollar earned by men. In 53 years, we have only closed the gap by 16 cents.

At this rate, it will not be eliminated until 2059. Women and their families deserve better, and they can't afford to wait that long. I strongly urge the Senate to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act and the resolution before us today.

In closing, the Senate has an opportunity to stand up for equal pay for the women's soccer team—and all American women—by adopting this resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 462 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 462) urging the United States Soccer Federation to immediately eliminate gender pay inequity and treat all athletes with the same respect and dignity.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I know of no further debate at this time on this resolution and ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to vote on adoption of the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 462) was agreed to.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of May 12, 2016, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

REMEMBERING MARY BABULA

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the life and work of Mary Babula.

For 44 years, Mary was a tireless and passionate advocate for children and early childhood educators and a valued resource for policymakers.

I was fortunate to work closely with Mary throughout my time in local and State government and later as a Member of the House of Representatives. Beyond our professional work together, Mary was a friend and also a mentor.

I first met Mary in the 1980s when I was serving on the Dane County Board of Supervisors and concurrently in an appointed position on the Community Coordinated Child Care board of directors.

Mary was at once an advocate for children and for the predominantly female professionals who teach and care for them. She understood that our children would only have safe, stimulating, and nurturing experiences in childcare settings if we invested in their training, credentialing, and adequate compensation.

Those who are entrusted with the care of children while their parents are engaged in work or study deserve that high value. Mary was a passionate leader in that regard.

Mary Babula organized early childhood educators to be effective voices on their own behalf. Whether it was lobbying for tuition assistance funding for low-income parents to be able to afford high-quality childcare or rallying for worthy wages, Mary wanted early childhood educators to be seen, heard, and respected.

A Wisconsin native, Mary Babula attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison and graduated with a degree in social work, later receiving a graduate degree in continuing and vocational education. She began her work with children as a part-time volunteer at a Madison daycare center while in college. She later worked as a teacher and director at Christian Day Care Center in Madison.

In 1971, Mary began working with the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association, otherwise known as WECA, and later became the organization's executive director. During her years at WECA, Mary led the organization through a wide variety of instrumental changes. The establishment of the Federal child care and development block

grant signaled new opportunities for WECA to increase its direct impact on childhood education and development. Through this program, WECA managed quality-improvement grants and established the Wisconsin Child Care Improvement Project. This project spurred the development of Child Care Resource and Referral agencies throughout Wisconsin, which provided parents a clear and responsible guide when selecting child care.

In the 2000s, WECA began to administer the REWARD Wisconsin Stipend Program, supported a mentoring program, and led efforts that resulted in the development and beginning of YoungStar, an important program that continues to serve as Wisconsin's childcare quality rating and improvement system. Her efforts and initiatives at WECA continue as her legacy.

Mary's passion for her children, caregivers, and educators extended well past the walls of WECA. She was eager to work with elected officials at the State, local, and Federal level to lend her expertise and knowledge. I had the privilege of working closely with Mary on numerous occasions and often sought her input on childcare issues as important legislation advanced through Congress.

Beyond her work with children, Mary brought her energy and dedication to numerous community groups, including Womonsong, Friendship Force, and the Wisconsin Women's Network.

I am fortunate to have known Mary as an advocate, as a friend, and as a mentor. I never let her small stature fool me. She had a soft yet powerful voice when it came to ensuring that the youngest and most vulnerable members of our community received a very strong start in life. Thousands of Wisconsin families can trace the early education of their children directly back to her advocacy. She leaves behind a huge and powerful legacy.

Mary Babula passed away late last year. She is survived by her life partner, Mary Mastaglio, her mother Miriam, and three sisters. Many family members and friends join in celebrating her life and legacy.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT ON SECRETARY CLINTON'S NON-GOVERNMENT SERVER AND EMAIL ARRANGEMENT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, the State Department inspector general has released findings regarding the State Department's email practices for

the last five Secretaries of State. This report makes clear that Secretary Clinton has not told the truth to the American people about her nongovernment server and email arrangement.

As I have noted many times before, Secretary Clinton's nongovernment server arrangement prevented the State Department from complying with the Freedom of Information Act. She used the private server to avoid the law that requires archiving Federal records. It was designed to wall her email off from the normal treatment of a government official's email communications.

The inspector general found that Secretary Clinton failed to surrender all official emails to the Department prior to leaving government service.

The inspector general found that Secretary Clinton's email practices "did not comply with the Department's policies that were implemented in accordance with the Federal Records Act." In other words, she violated the law. The inspector general has made clear that Secretary Clinton neither sought nor received any permission to maintain her nongovernment server arrangement. Moreover, the report says that if she had, that permission would have been denied.

These findings directly conflict with her many misleading public statements.

Secretary Clinton said on July 7, 2015, "Everything I did was permitted. There was no law. There was no regulation. There was nothing that did not give me the full authority to decide how I was going to communicate."

That statement is false.

Her staff also failed to comply with Department policy and records laws. They routinely conducted State Department business on personal email accounts.

After the controversy broke, they eventually turned over 72,000 pages of work related emails from those private accounts. These emails were not preserved in Department recordkeeping systems as required by Department policies and Federal records laws. In other words, her staff also violated the law.

Documents in those 72,000 pages were systematically withheld from Freedom of Information Act requestors and congressional oversight committees, including the Senate Judiciary Committee, which I chair. Based on the inspector general report, it appears that the Department failed to produce key documents to Congress from these personal email accounts.

For example, according to emails cited by the inspector general, we learned that Secretary Clinton's nongovernment server was attacked by hackers. One email the Department failed to turn over said that "we were attacked again so I shut the server down for a few minutes."

It is disturbing that the State Department knew it had emails like this and turned them over to the inspector general but not to Congress.

In another email the Department failed to turn over, the director of Secretary Clinton's IT unit warned her that "you should be aware that any email would go through the Department's infrastructure and subject to FOIA searches." Clearly, Secretary Clinton wanted to avoid the Freedom of Information Act at all costs.

That IT director who warned her about the transparency laws for State Department emails is named John Bentel. He has since retired from the State Department, and thus, the inspector general could not require him to testify.

He refused to speak with the inspector general. In fact, Former Secretary Clinton and several of her aides also refused to speak to the inspector general.

Mr. Bentel also refused to speak with the Judiciary Committee. According to his attorney, Randall Turk, Mr. Bentel knew nothing about the server at the time. In refusing to participate in a voluntary witness interview with the committee, Mr. Bentel's attorney claimed that his client only learned of the controversial email arrangement after it was reported in the press.

He said another congressional committee "spent its entire interview . . . focusing on what the Committees' letter says you want to ask him about."

In a January 14, 2016, email to my staff, Mr. Turk noted that Mr. Bentel had "no memory or knowledge of the matters he was questioned about."

The inspector general report says otherwise. According to the report, two of Mr. Bentel's subordinates separately raised concerns back in 2010 about Secretary Clinton's private email usage, including concerns that it was interfering with Federal recordkeeping laws. That is 5 years before the news broke publicly.

Both of these State Department staff independently told the inspector general about similar conversations they had with Mr. Bentel about their concerns. According to these new witnesses, Mr. Bentel told them never to speak of Secretary Clinton's personal email system again.

It seems unlikely that two witnesses who told such similar stories independent of one another would be making it up. Plus, they knew they were under a legal obligation to tell the truth to the inspector general.

Without having spoken to these witnesses directly, the circumstances make their statement seem credible. And although Mr. Bentel has been given the opportunity to provide his side of the story, he has refused to cooperate.

But if what these two witnesses said is true, it is an outrage, and it raises lots of serious questions. Good and honest employees just trying to do their job were told to shut up and sit down. Concerns about the Secretary's email system being out of compliance with Federal recordkeeping laws were swept under the rug.

If those State Department employees had not been muzzled 5 years earlier,

perhaps Secretary Clinton could have avoided this entire controversy.

Are these statements evidence of an intent to cover up Federal Records Act violations? Were the representations to the committee by Mr. Bentel's attorney that he didn't know about the private server false?

It seems from the inspector general report that Mr. Bentel in fact did have knowledge of Secretary Clinton's email arrangement, contrary to his attorney's assertions.

Not only that, he also was reportedly warned that it raised legal concerns about compliance with Federal records laws.

Secretary Clinton and her associates have refused to cooperate with the inquiries into this controversy. But it is becoming more apparent why she is not. The inspector general report makes clear that Secretary Clinton and a number of other former Department officials have not been truthful with the American people.

And in pursuit of constitutional oversight on these very important issues, the Department of State is continuing to fail to provide relevant documents to Congress.

I will follow up to get to the bottom of these discrepancies because misrepresenting the facts to Congress is unacceptable. Simply said, the American people deserve better.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in support of the Peters amendment No. 4138 to the National Defense Authorization Act. I would like to thank my colleagues, Senators DAINES, TILLIS, and GILLIBRAND, for joining me in filing this important bipartisan amendment.

We are a nation that takes care of our own, and we owe our veterans the highest possible level of care and support. The United States is home to over 2.6 million post-9/11 veterans—a number that is expected to increase by 46 percent by 2019. The improvements in medical technology have saved the lives of wounded warriors, who will receive the benefits and care these heroes deserve.

While scars, lost limbs, and other injuries are readily apparent to the eye, there are thousands of veterans coping with the invisible wounds of war. We have far too many servicemembers who are suffering from trauma-related conditions such as post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury. Unfortunately, many of these