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Senate Small Business and Economic Opportunity Committee Senate Bill 232 Sponsor Testimony Create fair paycheck workplace certificate June 25, 2024

Chairman Lang, Vice Chair Wilkin, Ranking Member Sykes and our good friend Senator Landis. Thank you for the opportunity to present sponsor testimony to help fix the persistent problem of the gender wage gap. You will hear about two pieces of legislation to attempt to fix this matter. The second of which, Senate Bill 232 would create a Fair Paycheck Workplace designation as a method of validating Ohio business that make the principled stand to pay their employees equally.

The analogy that I have often used when explaining SB 232 is what if there were two dry cleaners in your town. One had a fair paycheck designation, and one did not. Which one do you think would earn more business? When I explained this analogy to a particular female that I am very fond of, she responded, "Which one do you think I would want to work for?"

Members of the Small Business and Economic Opportunity Committee, if SB 232 were to become law, the businesses that received this designation would see an influx in customers and potential would create the Fair Paycheck Workplace designation to acknowledge Ohio businesses that pay their employees equally.

Make no mistake, the Pay Equity Gap is an enduring moral failure of civil society. It is a manmade problem (pun intended) but the good news is – it is also 100% fixable.

My joint sponsor and I appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this legislation and we would be happy to answer any questions that you might have. Thank you very much.