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HOUSE BILL 390

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY

Mimi Stewart

AN ACT

**RELATING TO LABOR; CREATING AN EQUAL PAY TASK FORCE; MAKING AN
APPROPRIATION.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**Section 1. TEMPORARY PROVISION--EQUAL PAY TASK FORCE--
MEMBERSHIP--PURPOSE--REPORT.--**

**A. By July 1, 2001, the governor shall appoint an
"equal pay task force" to operate from July 1 to December 1,
2001. The task force shall consist of nine members as
follows:**

**(1) two representatives of business, from
names submitted by business organizations and trade
associations;**

**(2) two representatives of labor, from names
submitted by labor unions;**

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1 (3) two representatives of organizations
2 whose objectives include the elimination of pay disparities
3 between men and women or minorities and nonminorities and that
4 have undertaken advocacy, educational or legislative
5 initiatives in pursuit of those objectives, from names
6 submitted by those organizations; and

7 (4) three persons from higher education or
8 research institutions who have experience and expertise in the
9 collection and analysis of data concerning pay disparities.

10 B. The governor shall name the chairman of the
11 equal pay task force and the members may name such other
12 officers as they deem necessary. Vacancies on the task force
13 shall be filled by appointment by the governor. Members of
14 the task force may be reimbursed for per diem and mileage
15 expenses as provided in the Per Diem and Mileage Act.

16 C. The equal pay task force shall:

17 (1) study the extent of wage disparities,
18 both in the public and private sectors, between men and women
19 and between minorities and nonminorities;

20 (2) study the factors that cause or tend to
21 cause wage disparities, including segregation between men and
22 women and between minorities and nonminorities across and
23 within occupations and professions; payment of lower wages for
24 female-dominated occupations; child-rearing responsibilities;
25 and education and training;

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1 (3) study the consequences of such
2 disparities on the state's economy and on families; and

3 (4) develop actions, including legislation,
4 that are likely to lead to the elimination and prevention of
5 wage disparities.

6 D. Staff for the equal pay task force shall be
7 provided by the labor department and the state personnel
8 office. Other state agencies shall assist the task force as
9 requested.

10 E. The equal pay task force shall make periodic
11 reports to the legislative finance committee and other
12 appropriate interim committees. The task force shall present
13 its final report to the governor and the legislature by
14 December 15, 2001. The report shall include the task force's
15 recommendations, including proposed legislation, to eliminate
16 and prevent wage disparities between men and women and between
17 minorities and nonminorities.

18 Section 2. APPROPRIATION.--Twenty thousand dollars
19 (\$20,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the labor
20 department for expenditure in fiscal year 2002 to pay per diem
21 and mileage expenses of members of the equal pay task force.
22 Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of
23 fiscal year 2002 shall revert to the general fund.