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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4011

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**State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2005 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Hudgins, Clibborn, Dickerson, Wallace, Conway, Morrell, Green, Kenney, Chase, Ormsby, Simpson, Hasegawa, Sells, Schual-Berke and Santos

Read first time 02/03/2005. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1            TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,  
2            AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3            REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4            UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE SECRETARY OF THE  
5            UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR:

6            We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
7            the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
8            represent and petition as follows:

9            WHEREAS, The bureau of labor statistics recently announced its  
10           decision to discontinue data collection on women workers in the current  
11           employment statistics survey after July 2005; and

12           WHEREAS, The current employment statistics survey of payroll  
13           records covers over 300,000 businesses and provides detailed industry  
14           data on employment, hours, and earnings of nonfarm workers on a monthly  
15           basis; and

16           WHEREAS, Analysis of the survey shows where women are gaining or  
17           losing jobs, in response to economic restructuring, changes in the  
18           business cycle, variation in labor supply, or other factors; and

19           WHEREAS, It represents a critical, ongoing source of employment  
20           information for policymakers and researchers; and

1       WHEREAS, With a gender breakdown, the payroll survey is capable of  
2 painting a reliable picture of where women are working across  
3 industries and business cycles; and

4       WHEREAS, Without a gender breakdown, that picture becomes far more  
5 difficult to obtain; and

6       WHEREAS, The current population survey is not an adequate  
7 substitute for the current employment statistics survey in this area;  
8 and

9       WHEREAS, The smaller sampling size of the current population survey  
10 produces a greater margin for error; and

11       WHEREAS, The current population survey's reliance on household  
12 interviews introduces the possibility of subjective reporting bias that  
13 does not exist with the payroll survey; and

14       WHEREAS, The compilation of women worker data in the current  
15 employment statistics survey represents a critical component of the  
16 bureau of labor statistics' work;

17       NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully request that  
18 Congress and the President direct the Department of Labor to reconsider  
19 this decision and continue publishing women worker information in the  
20 current employment statistics survey after July 2005.

21       BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
22 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United  
23 States, the Secretary of the United States Department of Labor, the  
24 President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
25 Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of  
26 Washington.

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