

Washington, DC -- On Monday, February 9, 2009, U.S. Rep. Michael A. Arcuri (D-Utica) will join the American Association of University Women, the League of Women Voters, ZONTA and the SUNY Cortland Women's Studies Committee at the Cortland YWCA to highlight the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, recently signed into law, which ensures that employers pay employees based on their work and productivity, not their gender.

Fair Pay Event with Cortland Women's Organizations

Date: Monday, February 9, 2009
Time: 12:00pm
Location: YWCA Cortland, 14 Clayton Ave., Cortland, NY
Contact: Kelli Kelli Owens, (315) 790-5452

Earlier this month, the House of Representatives passed, with Arcuri's strong support, The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act (S. 181), which the President signed into law immediately. The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act restores the law as it was prior to a narrowly-decided (5-4) 2007 Supreme Court decision, Ledbetter v. Goodyear. That decision upended longstanding law and made it much harder for women and other workers to pursue pay discrimination claims. This bill restores the prior law. Arcuri also voted for The Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R. 12) which strengthens the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and ensures that women have access to the courts in the event of a pay discrimination case. H.R. 12 puts gender-based discrimination sanctions on equal footing with other forms of wage discrimination.

Women, who now more than ever provide for their families and create economic growth in Upstate New York, still make less than men. Today, on average, women earn just 78 cents for every dollar earned by a man. The Institute of Women's Policy Research has found that this wage disparity will cost women anywhere from \$400,000 to \$2 million in lost wages over a lifetime.

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