



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

**MASSACHUSETTS BLACK AND LATINO LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS**

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**MASSACHUSETTS BLACK AND LATINO LEGISLATIVE  
CAUCUS & WOMEN'S CAUCUS HONOR AFRICAN AMERICAN  
EQUAL PAY DAY**

**BOSTON** – On Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus and the Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators collaborated to host an informational briefing in recognition of African American Equal Pay Day.

While the gender wage gap is often cited at women making 77 cents on the white, male dollar, the wage gap between different races is drastically different. On average, African American women earn 64 cents on the white male dollar and their Latina counterparts are even worse off at earning 54 cents on the white male dollar. It is important to focus the discussion on all of these disparities and to educate the public on how large these gaps are.

Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> marked the day until which African American women must work in order to earn the same amount as their white male counterparts for the year of 2014 - almost seven months longer in order to even out.

The briefing included remarks from Boston City Councilor-At-Large Ayanna Pressley, Regional Administrator for the U.S. Department of Labor Women's Bureau Jacqueline Cooke, Research Director for the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy at UMass Boston Christa Kelleher and Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Future Boston Alliance Malia Lazu.

The briefing was moderated by Rep. Russell Holmes (D – Boston), Chair of the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus, and also included remarks by Representative Ellen Story (D – Amherst), one of the main co-sponsors of An Act to Establish Pay Equity, Senator Linda Dorcena Forry (D – Boston), Senate Vice Chair of the Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators, and Representative Gloria Fox (D – Roxbury/Boston), House Chair of the Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators.

“The conversation today on equal pay for women, particularly Black women, is both timely and necessary. As the primary care-giver of many households, Black women play a critical role in the

strength of our communities and our workforce. Both Caucus' will continue to work hard to make strides in the fight to pass equal pay here in Massachusetts", said Representative Holmes.

For more information on the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus, please visit: [www.mablacklatinocaucus.com/](http://www.mablacklatinocaucus.com/).

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