

# UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | JULY 2017

## Insights on Equality for Women

### JOIN ME IN A TOAST TO THE SUFFRAGISTS!



On August 26 each year for the past several years, I have raised my glass of grape juice in tribute to the courageous women suffragists of a century ago. It's a small gesture of thanks for a right that too many of us take for granted.

Vision 2020 has commemorated this date – designated by Congress as National Women's Equality Day – with an annual Toast to Tenacity™ in Philadelphia. This year, we're inviting you to join us or host your own Vision 2020 Toast to Tenacity on Saturday, August 26 (don't worry; it's easy!).

[Click here to learn more.](#)

## Vision 2020 News

### EXPANDING THE VISION 2020 NATIONAL OFFICE TEAM

Wanted: a strong, experienced, committed leader!

#### [Vision 2020 is seeking an Executive Director.](#)

Reporting to Vision 2020 President Lynn Yeakel, the Executive Director will manage and implement plans and programs for Vision 2020 and [Women 100](#), the national 19th Amendment centennial celebration taking place in and around Philadelphia throughout the year 2020.

Responsibilities include developing a comprehensive fundraising program that includes both corporate sponsorships and individual giving initiatives.

[Apply here.](#)



## NEW THIS YEAR: THE VISION 2020 HERSTORY HUNT



**Registration is now open for the Vision 2020 HERstory Hunt** taking place in Philadelphia on National Women's Equality Day.

The HERstory Hunt is a hands-on women's history scavenger hunt made possible with support from Wells Fargo. It seeks to teach girls and boys to go beyond the traditional telling of history to find the underrepresented voices of the past, and especially to find the places where women have served as leaders or important historical figures.

The HERstory Hunt is free and open to the public, although registration is required.

**WHEN:** Saturday, August 26, 2017  
10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Independence National Historical Park

Save your spot! [Register now.](#)

## Delegate News

### OREGON DELEGATES WEIGH IN ON STATE'S NEW EQUAL PAY ACT



*Oregon Governor Kate Brown signs the Oregon Equal Pay Act on June 1, 2017.*

Oregon is the latest state to sign pay equity into law.

On June 1, Governor Kate Brown signed the Oregon Equal Pay Act, barring employers from paying employees who perform comparable work different pay rates because of their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, veteran status, disability or age.

**Barbara Ramirez Spencer, EdD**, a Vision 2020 Delegate in Oregon who serves as chair of the Oregon Commission for Women, testified in support of the bill. Regarding the bill's passing, Spencer said:

*"Legislative unanimity did not come easy, as there were 31 amendments to the bill as it was originally proposed. Some amendments improved the bill; others watered down its provisions. When the bill was first voted on in the House, it was one of the most rancorous, partisan debates of the 2017 session up to that point. After that, however, everyone seemed to get down to work. In fact, one of the positive impacts of the bill -- aside from what the bill itself provides -- is that while the negotiations were tough, they were fair. And everyone was at the table during negotiations, including women's advocacy organizations, basic rights and disability organizations, and large and small employers.*

*"Now women can truly say that there is only one thing a woman needs to do to get paid as much as a man: her job!"*

**Cheryl Myers**, also a Vision 2020 Delegate in Oregon, who serves as director of culture and inclusion at the Oregon Higher Education Commission, added:

"I am thrilled to see that the signing of the Equal Pay Act, which expands protections to women, now includes all protected classes and removes prior salary as a hiring consideration. To quote our governor: 'Pay inequity can keep women in relationships they don't want to be in and can keep women of color working two or three jobs.' I'm proud to see Oregon leading the way on these important issues."

## TENNESSEE DELEGATES RECEIVE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD



*Board members of the Tennessee Woman's Suffrage Monument, including Vision 2020 Delegates Patricia Pierce and Yvonne Wood dressed as suffragists, received certificates for excellent volunteer work in historic preservation from the Daughters of the American Revolution.*

**Patricia Pierce** and **Yvonne Wood**, Vision 2020 Delegates in Tennessee and board members of **Tennessee Woman Suffrage Monument Inc.**, recently accepted an award on behalf of the monument group from the Daughters of the American Revolution National Chapter.

The organization received the DAR 2017 National Historic Preservation Recognition Award for its work fundraising and erecting a historic monument in Nashville's Centennial Park to celebrate and honor the suffragists who fought for women to gain the right to vote.

At the DAR award ceremony, Pierce and Wood gave the keynote address, discussing the history of women's suffrage nationally and the role Tennessee played in the ratification of the 19th Amendment, as well as the six-year journey for the Tennessee monument to go from conception to reality.

Ally News

## TWO ALLIES RELEASE REPORT ON WHY WOMEN'S REPRESENTATION IN CONGRESS MATTERS

The [Center for American Women and Politics](#) at Rutgers University and [Political Parity](#) – two Vision 2020 Allied Organizations – joined forces to produce a report on the representation of women in Congress.

For [Representation Matters: Women in the U.S. Congress](#), the center interviewed 83 of the 108 woman who served in the 114th Congress (2015-16).



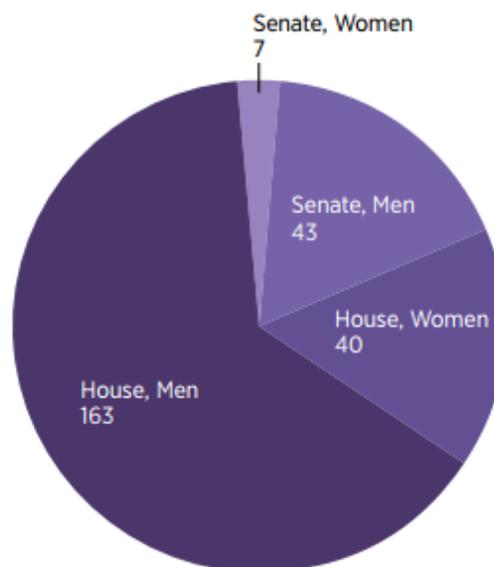
What did they find? Women on both sides of the aisle very much believe that their presence and voices mattered. Also, a majority of the women interviewed believe that women are more likely than their male counterparts to work across party lines and to emphasize achievement over ego; they also believe that women are more results-oriented and more concerned with achieving policy outcomes rather than receiving publicity or credit.

## REGIONAL ALLY EXAMINES IMPACT OF WOMEN IN PA STATE ASSEMBLY

The [Pennsylvania Center for Women & Politics](#) at Chatham University, a Vision 2020 Regional Ally, recently released a report titled [Few, but Mighty: Women and Bill Sponsorship in the Pennsylvania General Assembly](#).

The report examines women's underrepresentation in the Pennsylvania General Assembly as well as nationally.

The report also explores the role women legislators have played, how their presence has affected lawmaking and the unique strengths women bring to policymaking, as well as their impact related to sponsorship, bipartisanship, collaboration and legislative success.



*Number of legislators in the Pennsylvania General Assembly by gender, 2017.*

## ALLY REPORTS INCREASE IN WOMEN ON BOARDS



Five and a half years since launching its Adopt a Company Campaign, the [\*\*Thirty Percent Coalition\*\*](#), a Vision 2020 Ally, announced that 151 companies have now appointed a woman to their boards of directors.

The appointment of a woman, and in many instances a woman of color, was a first for most of these companies.

[Click here to read Thirty Percent Coalition's report.](#)

## Photo of the Month

Have an empowering photo to share? Submit it to [vision2020@drexelmed.edu](mailto:vision2020@drexelmed.edu) to be included in one of our future newsletters.

## CHECKMATE FOR THE GIRLS



*Lynn Yeakel with competitors from the 9th Annual Philly Girls Play Chess tournament*

ASAP (After School Activities Partnerships) starts and supports after-school clubs for Philadelphia youth. One of the clubs, Philly Girls Play Chess, recently held its 9th annual tournament, hosted each year by the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership at Drexel University, the home of Vision 2020.

At the 2017 Philly Girls Play Chess tournament, Lynn Yeakel watched a record 130+ girls playing one of her favorite games. Research shows that the strategic thinking learned in chess competition contributes to girls' interest in the STEM fields. Lynn thinks it also helps in politics!

Founding Sponsor:



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