



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Diane J. Savino

## Senate Passes Legislation Establishing August 26th as Women's Equality Day

DIANE J. SAVINO March 1, 2010



(Albany)—Today, the Senate passed legislation sponsored by Senator Diane J. Savino establishing August 26th as Women's Equality Day.

This commemorates the adoption of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution which guaranteed women the right to vote. This milestone in American history has led to significant contributions of women in the fields of business, politics, journalism, medicine and beyond.

By enacting this bill into law, New York State gives added recognition to the great contributions of women throughout our history while recognizing other civil rights advancements over the last century.

“It is hard to believe that there was a time in the recent past when women were not afforded the basic right to vote. This serves as a reminder of how far we have come, and the work that must continue to ensure the advancement of women in all aspects of our society. It is my hope that recognizing Women’s Equality Day will renew our commitment to equality for all.”

Senator Savino, who has both sponsored and co-sponsored several bills directly benefitting women, including the Domestic Workers’ Bill of Rights, which would give domestic workers, basic labor protections, and the Pay Equity Bill, which addresses pay inequities in the workplace, stressed that there is still much work to do.

“It’s been 40 years since the passage of the Equal Pay Act and yet here we are—two generations later—still making 80 cents on the dollar or trapped in pink collar jobs. Still, other women work in homes, as nannies, housekeepers, or elderly caregivers, without any protection against abuse or exploitation,” said Senator Savino. “While we must recognize the amazing achievements of the women leaders who have come before us, we must not be complacent. We simply cannot afford too,” added the Senator.

This legislation is effective immediately.

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