

Senate Resolution 786

By: Senators Butler of the 55th, Brown of the 26th, Miles of the 43rd, Zamarripa of the 36th, Fort of the 39th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Equal Payday Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, 40 years after the passage of the Equal Pay Act and Title VII of the Civil Rights
3 Act, women and people of color continue to suffer the consequences of inequitable pay
4 differentials and the U.S. Census Bureau reports little change in pay equity; and

5 WHEREAS, according to the General Accounting Office, women managers in seven of ten
6 industries surveyed actually lost ground in closing the wage gap between 1995 and 2000; the
7 U.S. Department of Labor Statistics reported in 2001 that women earn less in every
8 occupational classification; and the U.S. Department of Education reports that full-time
9 female faculty members earn nearly 9 percent less than their male counterparts; and

10 WHEREAS, over a lifetime, wage disparity costs the average American woman and her
11 family an estimated \$250,000.00 in lost wages plus Social Security benefits and pensions;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, fair pay equity policies can be implemented simply and without undue costs or
14 hardship in both the public and private sectors, and fair pay strengthens the security of
15 families today, eases retirement costs, and enhances the national, state, and local economy.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
17 Equal Payday Study Committee to be composed of five members of the Senate to be
18 appointed by the Senate Committee on Assignments. The Senate Committee on
19 Assignments shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.
20 The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
22 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions
23 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may

1 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
2 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
3 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee
4 shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim legislative
5 committees but shall receive the same for not more than ten days unless additional days are
6 authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
7 from the funds appropriated to the Senate. In the event the committee makes a report of its
8 findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report
9 shall be made on or before December 31, 2006. The committee shall stand abolished on
10 December 31, 2006.