



Rep. Mary E. Flowers

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1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 1039

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 1039 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Marshall Plan for Moms Interagency Task Force Act.

6 Section 5. Findings. The General Assembly finds the
7 following:

8 (1) Any relief and long-term recovery from the
9 economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic must recognize
10 the disproportionate burden mothers have weathered. Women,
11 especially mothers, have faced the brunt of the economic
12 challenges of the pandemic due to social barriers and
13 policy failures that have been compounded by enduring
14 racism and gender injustices, including the lack of care
15 infrastructure, lack of family-supportive workplaces, and
16 gender and racial pay inequities.

1 (2) Women continue to face unjust gender and racial
2 wage gaps, and are overrepresented in low-wage jobs,
3 despite their gains in workforce participation.
4 Asian-American and Pacific Islander women, particularly
5 Southeast Asian and Pacific Islander women, get paid as
6 little as \$0.50 for every dollar a White man makes. Black
7 women make only \$0.63 for every dollar a White man makes,
8 and as a result may lose \$946,000 in their lifetimes.
9 Latina women earn \$0.55 for every dollar earned by a White
10 man, and as a result may lose over \$1,100,000 in wages over
11 the course of a 40-year career. Native American women are
12 paid \$0.60 for every dollar a White man makes and are
13 murdered at 10 times the rate of the national average,
14 even though financial independence and security can
15 increase chances of escaping violence for these women.
16 Women's wages are key to their families' economic security
17 and survival. Across the country, mothers are breadwinners
18 in almost half of families with children under 18, even
19 though mothers face a greater pay gap than women as a
20 whole. Even prior to the pandemic, working mothers faced
21 continued biases and stigmas in the workplace that
22 caregiving responsibilities will negatively impact their
23 work performance.

24 (3) Women have suffered the majority of
25 pandemic-related job losses. Since February 2020, women
26 have lost over 5,400,000 net jobs and account for 55% of

1 overall net job loss since the beginning of the crisis.
2 Women of color are experiencing higher rates of job loss
3 than White women. According to the Bureau of Labor
4 Statistics January 2021 unemployment data, the jobless
5 rate for Black women and Latina women aged 20 and over is
6 over 60% higher than their White counterparts. Asian
7 Americans recorded the highest jobless rates among women
8 in the last 6 months of 2020, even though before the
9 pandemic their average unemployment rate was the lowest.

10 (4) Women face a disproportionate burden of caregiving
11 responsibilities. Mothers are 3 times more likely than
12 fathers to be responsible for most of the caregiving and
13 household work. Single mothers are more likely than other
14 parents to take care of all housework and childcare
15 responsibilities in their household, and are more likely
16 than other mothers to experience financial insecurity.

17 (5) Throughout the pandemic, women of color have
18 played integral roles on the front lines as essential
19 workers, including as nursing assistants, home health
20 aides, and child care educators.

21 (6) The unprecedented burdens of child care, work, and
22 remote learning have strained mental and emotional health
23 for mothers. These points of stress are compounded by
24 financial instability, racial injustice, being a single
25 parent, having children with special needs, and many other
26 factors.

1 Section 10. Task Force.

2 (a) The Marshall Plan for Moms Interagency Task Force is
3 established. The Task Force shall consist of the following
4 members or their designees:

5 (1) the Director of Labor, who shall serve as chair;

6 (2) the Secretary of Human Services;

7 (3) the Chairman of the Illinois Workers' Compensation
8 Commission;

9 (4) the Director of Public Health;

10 (5) the Director of Human Rights;

11 (6) two members, who shall be appointed by the
12 Governor, one upon the recommendation of the Illinois
13 AFL-CIO and one upon the recommendation of the Illinois
14 Manufacturers' Association;

15 (7) one member, who shall be appointed by the Speaker
16 of the House of Representatives; and

17 (8) one member, who shall be appointed by the
18 President of the Senate.

19 (b) Upon the appointment of a quorum of members, the Task
20 Force shall meet as often as is necessary, but no less than
21 once per quarter and where otherwise appropriate to fulfilling
22 its duties under this Act. The members of the Task Force shall
23 serve without compensation but shall be entitled to
24 reimbursement for all necessary expenses incurred in the
25 performance of their duties.

1 (c) The Department of Labor shall provide staff and other
2 assistance to the Task Force.

3 Section 15. Policy areas; proposals and recommendations.
4 The Task Force shall examine the following policy areas and
5 may issue proposals and recommendations thereon:

6 (1) The utilization of recurring payments or financial
7 assistance to mothers and other caregivers and any
8 equivalent policies under all current State and federal
9 programs.

10 (2) The current utilization rates and impacts of
11 family leave programs as well as specific impacts of the
12 programs on mothers and other caregivers.

13 (3) Current State policy impacting the childcare
14 industry and the access or availability of child care in
15 all areas of the State.

16 (4) The impact of any new policies imposed by the
17 federal government or by State or local officials during
18 the COVID-19 pandemic that have impacted mothers and other
19 caregivers in the workforce.

20 (5) The availability and access to mental health
21 support for mothers and other caregivers, and the impact
22 of access or availability to mental health support on such
23 families.

24 (6) The access and availability of all such programs
25 for immigrant families, and the impact of inaccessibility

1 or unavailability of any such programs on immigrant
2 families and the State.

3 (7) Any other areas the Task Force deems relevant in
4 the review of policies that may impact mothers and other
5 caregivers.

6 Section 20. Hearings. Within one year after the effective
7 date of this Act, in carrying out its functions, the Task Force
8 shall hold 2 public hearings around the State to foster
9 discussions among, and conduct formal public hearings with
10 requisite public notice to solicit input and recommendations
11 from statewide and regional stakeholder interests. The Task
12 Force shall also accept public input in writing. The Task
13 Force may utilize remote access such as web conferencing in
14 order to comply with the provisions of this Section.

15 Section 25. Findings and recommendations. Within 2 years
16 after the effective date of this Act, the Task Force shall
17 report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and
18 the General Assembly and shall publicize its findings on a
19 website provided by the Department of Labor.

20 Section 30. Findings and recommendations. This Act is
21 repealed 3 years after the effective date of this Act.

22 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

1 becoming law.".