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HR-58 (2015-2016)

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CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2015–2016 REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE RESOLUTION

NO. 58

Introduced by Assembly Member Chang
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Baker, Campos, Cristina Garcia, Irwin, Kim, and Weber)

June 30, 2016

Relative to the United States Women's National Soccer Team.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

HR 58, as introduced, Chang.

WHEREAS, The United States Women's National Soccer Team has won three World Cup titles since the Women's World Cup was founded in 1991, as well as four Olympic gold medals; and

WHEREAS, The Women's World Cup final victory in 2015 against Japan was the most watched soccer match in United States television history for women or men; and

WHEREAS, In 2015, the United States Women's National Soccer Team earned the United States Soccer Federation a profit more than three times the amount produced by the United States Men's National Soccer Team. In 2016 the women's team is expected to earn similar profits while the men's team is projected to lose earnings; and

WHEREAS, Despite their success, compensation for the members of the United States Women's National Soccer Team is clearly disparate when compared with the United States Men's National Soccer Team. Women on the national team earn \$30,000 if they make the World Cup roster; men on the national team, on the other hand, earn \$68,750 for making the World Cup roster, which is more than twice as much as the pay earned by members of the women's national team; and

WHEREAS, If the United States Women's National Soccer Team were to win all 20 regular season games, they would earn only about 40 percent of the compensation for the same results by the United States Men's National Soccer Team; and

WHEREAS, The United States Women's National Soccer Team is given a bonus of \$1,350 for every friendly game they win; no bonus is rewarded for a loss or tie. Comparatively, the United States Men's National Soccer Team receives a bonus of \$5,000 for every friendly game they play, regardless of the outcome; and

WHEREAS, Female soccer players all over the country aspire to join the United States Women's National Soccer Team and unfair compensation sends the wrong message that even the best players will not be properly and fairly recognized for their success; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, That the Assembly hereby declares its support for the members of the United States Women's National Soccer Team in their efforts to be fairly compensated; and be it further

Resolved, That the Assembly urges the United States Soccer Federation to immediately end gender pay disparities under the federation; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution. .