

Equal Pay Petition

to the Department of Labour to find out whether men and women are being paid equally in all our workplaces

Information:

Since 1972, women have been entitled to equal pay by law. But in 2011 there is still a big pay gap between men and women, and it is very hard to get information about whether the law is being followed.

Pay transparency reduces the gender pay gap. That is why it is so important that we support the two pieces of legislation on pay equity which fuelled the outburst from Alasdair Thompson.

The Ministers of Labour and Women's Affairs say that new legislation is not needed because workers can find out this information now by asking a Labour Inspector to investigate a complaint. We know that it just doesn't work like this. We believe it would be extremely difficult if not impossible to get a Labour Inspector's assistance on an equal pay complaint. But we think it is worth checking out the Ministers' assertions.

This petition puts that process to the test, so

we can see what happens when workers ask for a Labour Inspector's assistance to check out if there is equal pay in the workplace. We're not aware of anyone ever using the mechanism that the Ministers say exists – so now is the time!

The petition can be signed either individually or collectively e.g. – as a workplace. Signing collectively may be preferable for some workers as an action that workers can take together.

This is a simple action most workers could take to support pay equity and keeps up the momentum of our campaign. Excellent progress has been made in the last few weeks and there is a level of support for pay equity now that is unprecedented.

Some people may not want their employer to know that this request has been made, so they can request that their name remain confidential and not be passed on to their employer.



We are aiming to get 100 workplaces to sign up and we will send these to the Chief Executive of the Department of Labour. You may remove the logo's from the top of the petition if you wish. Please send the petition to CTU, PO Box 6645, Wellington 6141. The cut off date for this petition is 30 September.

Yours in solidarity

Helen Kelly

Helen Kelly
NZCTU President