



Prepared by
Helyne Meshar & Associates

Legislative Report

The Legislative Report is current as of October 15, 2015

The designation of "Mayor" is used when a councilmember introduced a resolution/council item regarding legislation while serving as mayor.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

Bill #	Author	Title	Summary	Status	WEHO Position	Initiating Office
H.R. 448	Representative Judy Chu (CA)	Women's Health Protection Act of 2015	H.R. 448 prohibits states from imposing unconstitutional restrictions on reproductive health care providers that apply to no similar medical care, interfere with women's personal decision making, and block access to safe and legal abortion services.	Introduced on January 21, 2015, Sent to House Energy and Commerce Committee, Subc. on Health	Support	Department of Human Services and Rent Stabilization
H.R. 1619	Representative Rosa DeLauro (CT)	The Paycheck Fairness Act	H.R.1619 amends the portion of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 known as the Equal Pay Act to prohibit retaliation against workers who disclose their wages and requires employers to show that pay disparity is related to job performance and factors other than gender.	Introduced on March 25, 2015, Sent to House Education and the Workforce Committee	Support	Department of Human Services and Rent Stabilization
H.R. 1933	Representative John Conyers, (NY)	End Racial Profiling Act of 2015	H.R. 1933 would 1) prohibit racial profiling; 2) mandate training on racial profiling issues and the collection of data on all routine or spontaneous investigatory activities that are to be submitted through a standardized form to the Department of Justice; 3) condition the receipt of federal law enforcement and other funds that go to state and local governments on their adoption of effective policies that prohibit racial profiling; 4) authorize the Justice Department to provide grants for the development and implementation of best policing practices, such as early warning systems, technology integration, and other management protocols that discourage profiling; and 5) require the Attorney General to provide periodic reports to assess the nature of any ongoing discriminatory profiling practices.	Introduced on April 22, 2015, Sent to House Judiciary Committee, Subc. on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations	Support	Department of Human Services and Rent Stabilization

Bill #	Author	Title	Summary	Status	WEHO Position	Initiating Office
S. 217	Senator Richard Blumenthal (CT)	Women's Health Protection Act of 2015	S. 217 prohibits states from imposing unconstitutional restrictions on reproductive health care providers that apply to no similar medical care, interfere with women's personal decision making, and block access to safe and legal abortion services.	Introduced on January 21, 2015, Sent to Senate Judiciary Committee	Support	Department of Human Services and Rent Stabilization
S. 862	Senator Barbara Mikulski (MD)	The Paycheck Fairness Act	S.862 amends the portion of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 known as the Equal Pay Act to prohibit retaliation against workers who disclose their wages and requires employers to show that pay disparity is related to job performance and factors other than gender.	Introduced on March 25, 2015, Sent to Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Support	Department of Human Services and Rent Stabilization
S. 1056	Senator Ben Cardin (MD)	End Racial Profiling Act of 2015	S. 1056 would 1) prohibit racial profiling; 2) mandate training on racial profiling issues, and the collection of data on all routine or spontaneous investigatory activities that is to be submitted through a standardized form to the Department of Justice; 3) condition the receipt of federal law enforcement and other funds that go to state and local governments on their adoption of effective policies that prohibit racial profiling; 4) authorize the Justice Department to provide grants for the development and implementation of best policing practices, such as early warning systems, technology integration, and other management protocols that discourage profiling; and 5) require the Attorney General to provide periodic reports to assess the nature of any ongoing discriminatory profiling practices.	Introduced on April 22, 2015, Sent to Senate Judiciary Committee	Support	Department of Human Services and Rent Stabilization

FEDERAL ISSUES

Bill #	Author	Title	Summary	Status	WEHO Position	Initiating Office
		Start Up Day Initiative	The Start Up Day Initiative is collaboration between the White House, the Small Business Administration, and the National League of Cities to encourage cities to streamline the process for entrepreneurs to start a new small business.		Support	Mayor Lindsey Horvath
		Sanctuary Cities	There have been efforts in Congress to introduce legislation that would deny federal public safety funding to sanctuary cities. Sanctuary cities are defined as a state, county, or municipality that has policies or laws in place that limit the extent to which local law enforcement or government employees will assist the federal government on immigration matters.		Oppose	Mayor Lindsey Horvath and Councilmember Lauren Meister
		Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Fast Track	Approval by Congress of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Fast Track authority, which is a procedural rule, would forbid Congress from amending the TPP when it comes up for a vote after it is negotiated and would require an up or down vote within 60 days.	TPP Fast Track approved by Congress	Oppose	Councilmembers Abbe Land and John Heilman
		Fraudulent media campaign against Planned Parenthood	Opponents of Planned Parenthood have instituted a fraudulent media campaign to discredit the organization and its provision of reproductive health care services.		Oppose	Mayor Lindsey Horvath