

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 144

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 25, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Benson

SYNOPSIS

Urges U.S. Soccer Federation to provide equitable treatment to U.S. Women's National Team.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/16/2020)

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** urging the United States Soccer Federation
2 to provide the United States Women’s National Team with equal
3 pay and conditions.
4

5 **WHEREAS**, Despite being the most dominant sports team representing
6 the United States in international play, and generating more revenue
7 than the U.S. Men’s National Team, the U.S. Soccer Federation
8 pays the U.S. Women’s National Team less than their male
9 counterparts; and

10 **WHEREAS**, The women’s team has been more successful, winning four
11 World Cup titles and four Olympic gold medals, while the men’s
12 team has never reached the final round of either competition; and

13 **WHEREAS**, The women’s team is more successful at raising revenues,
14 earning nearly \$20 million more than the men’s team in 2015, and
15 generating approximately \$900,000 more in ticket sale revenue than
16 the men’s team from fiscal years 2016 to 2018; and

17 **WHEREAS**, In spite of their impressive victories and sound earning
18 potential, the women are paid almost four times less than the men;
19 and

20 **WHEREAS**, The disparity in bonus pay between the teams is
21 particularly shocking; male players are paid \$5,000 for a loss in a
22 friendly match and as much as \$17,625 for a victory, while female
23 players are paid \$1,350 for wins, but receive nothing for losses or
24 ties; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Women are also paid less for sponsorship appearances,
26 receive less in per diem pay while with the national team, and
27 receive less in ticket share revenue bonuses; and

28 **WHEREAS**, The 2019 World Cup prize money for the winning
29 women’s team was approximately \$4 million, and total prize money
30 for the tournament was approximately \$30 million, in contrast to
31 \$38 million in prize money for the winning men’s team in the 2018
32 World Cup, with prize money for the tournament totaling
33 approximately \$400 million; and

34 **WHEREAS**, The unequal conditions extend beyond the pay
35 discrepancies to playing, traveling, and training conditions,
36 including but not limited to, the women’s team at times having had
37 to play on artificial turf, which is notorious for causing injuries,
38 while every FIFA-sanctioned men’s match is played on natural
39 grass; and

40 **WHEREAS**, This unequal pay is a reflection of gender wage disparity
41 throughout the workforce, as in 2014, female full time workers
42 made only 79 cents for every dollar made by men; and

43 **WHEREAS**, By addressing wage disparity in U.S. Soccer between the
44 U.S. Women’s National Team and U.S. Men’s National Team, the
45 U.S. Soccer Federation will send a powerful message in support of
46 gender wage equality for all workers; and

47 **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Soccer Federation should show the importance
48 and value of the women’s team to its organization by providing the

1 team with equal pay, including equal opportunities for bonus pay,
2 and equal playing, traveling, and training conditions; now,
3 therefore,

4

5 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
6 *State of New Jersey:*

7

8 1. The United States Soccer Federation is hereby urged to
9 provide the United States Women's National Team with pay and
10 conditions that are equal to those provided to the United States
11 Men's National Team.

12

13 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
14 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the
15 Secretary of the Senate to the United States Soccer Federation.

16

17 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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22 This joint resolution urges the United States Soccer Federation to
23 provide the United States Women's National Team with equal pay,
24 including equal opportunities for bonus pay, and equal playing,
25 traveling, and training conditions as those provided to the United
26 States Men's National Team.

27 Despite being the most dominant sports team representing the
28 United States in international play, and generating more revenue
29 than the United States Men's National Team in 2015, the U.S.
30 Soccer Federation pays the United States Women's National Team
31 less than their male counterparts, and provides them with unequal
32 playing, traveling, and training conditions.

33 This resolution urges the U.S. Soccer Federation to show the
34 importance and value of the women's team to its organization by
35 providing the team with equal pay and conditions.