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## **Women's Rights Icon Endorses Dave Jones for Insurance Commissioner**

Lilly Ledbetter, whose employment discrimination case went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court and resulted in the passage of federal legislation to protect workers from discrimination has endorsed Dave Jones for Insurance Commissioner.

Lilly Ledbetter worked with Assemblymember Dave Jones on state legislation, AB 793 (Jones) to ensure that California's anti-discrimination laws weren't weakened by the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Ledbetter vs. Goodyear Tire & Rubber*.

"I strongly endorse Dave Jones for Insurance Commissioner because he will be a champion in protecting the rights of California's families," said Ledbetter. "Dave Jones has been a leader in the fight against discrimination of all kinds in California. He will stand up for consumers and hold the insurance industry accountable."

Lilly Ledbetter worked for Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. for nearly twenty years. She sued the company after learning that she was paid less than her male colleagues, including those with less experience. In 2007, the U.S. Supreme Court, by one vote, overturned decades of precedent in *Ledbetter vs. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.* - severely limiting workers' ability to bring pay discrimination claims. The court said that Lilly Ledbetter had waited too long to sue for pay discrimination despite the fact that she had filed a complaint as soon as she received an anonymous note alerting her to the pay discrimination on the basis of sex.

The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act – the first bill signed into law by President Barack Obama – restored federal anti-discrimination protections in the law.

"Lilly Ledbetter is an American hero. She stood up against powerful special interests and fought successfully to make sure that women and minorities are not discriminated against in the workplace," explained Assemblymember Dave Jones. "I am proud to have Lilly Ledbetter's endorsement of my candidacy for Insurance Commissioner."

At the signing ceremony for the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act President Obama commented, "Signing this bill today is to send a clear message that making our economy work means making sure it works for everybody – that there are no second class citizens in our workplaces, and that it's not just unfair and illegal, it's bad for business to pay somebody less because of their gender, or their age or their race or their ethnicity, religion or disability."