Calif. equal pay bill may be toughest in nation

By Samantha Masunaga, Los Angeles Times

California's new Fair Pay Act, which awaits Gov. Jerry Brown's signature, may be the nation's most aggressive attempt yet to close the salary gap between men and women.

The bill ensures that male and female employees who perform "substantially similar" work receive equal pay, even if their job titles aren't the same or if they work in different offices for the same employer.

That means a hotel's female housekeepers could challenge higher wages paid to male janitors because they do similar work despite different job titles.

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