

## the work and family legal center

80 Maiden Lane, Suite 606, New York, NY 10038 | t: 212.430.5982 | f: 212.430.5983 | info@abetterbalance.org | abetterbalance.org

For Immediate Release: Monday, June 3, 2013

For More Information: Elizabeth Gedmark, egedmark@abetterbalance.org, 212-430-5982

## New Yorkers Rally in Albany for Women's Equality

New Yorkers travel to the state capital tomorrow for #NY4Women Rally and Lobby Day in support of Women's Equality Agenda

Albany, June 3, 2013 - A Better Balance will join thousands of New Yorkers at the State Capitol in Albany tomorrow for a rally in support of Governor Cuomo's groundbreaking Women's Equality Agenda. The Agenda will improve the lives of New York's 10 million women by removing significant barriers to women's full and equal participation in society. In addition, A Better Balance will deliver over 1,800 petition signatures to legislators in support of the Women's Equality Agenda.

In front of thousands in Albany's West Capitol Park, speakers at the rally will stress why all 10 points of Gov. Andrew Cuomo's Women's Equality Agenda must pass this legislative session. Featured speakers will include actress and activist **Cynthia Nixon**, leader in the black feminist movement **Barbara Smith**, legislators who have championed women's equality, women with personal experience of unjust treatment under the law, and leading advocates from across the state, including A Better Balance Co-President and Co-Founder, **Dina Bakst**.

The Women's Equality Agenda includes protections that are vitally important to the economic security of families across New York State. These include protections to combat pregnancy discrimination, strengthen equal pay laws, and end discrimination against parents. As Bakst explained, "Every day working women experience unfair treatment in their jobs—whether it's being pushed out because they need something as simple as a water bottle at work while they are pregnant, or unequal pay. We hear these stories all the time at A Better Balance and such discrimination is economically devastating for New York women and their families. Forty percent of American households have a mother who is the sole or primary breadwinner—inequality affects families and our entire State's economy."

The #NY4Women Rally and Lobby Day is a culmination of months of grassroots organizing led by labor groups, women's advocacy organizations, religious groups, business leaders, health care associations and concerned New Yorkers who have dedicated themselves to making sure lawmakers pass the Women's Equality Agenda.