



H&R Block pledges to advance women in all levels of leadership as a Catalyst CEO Champions for Change participant

August 26, 2020

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Aug. 26, 2020 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- [Women's Equality Day](#) is celebrated annually on August 26 to commemorate the passage of the 19th Amendment that provides equal rights to women, including the right to vote. To mark this important day, H&R Block (NYSE: HRB) announces it has joined the *Catalyst CEO Champions for Change* pledge to increase the representation of women, including women of color, in its senior leadership and board positions. H&R Block joins more than 60 other leading global companies and CEOs that are committing to advance women and share data with Catalyst on the representation of women in their workplaces so collective progress can be tracked, analyzed and reported, with the goal of inspiring other organizations by their progress.

The Catalyst pledge includes a commitment to:

- Accelerate progress in the representation of women, including women of color, in executive/senior level positions over five years.
- Maintain (where strong) or accelerate the representation of women, including women of color, on the Company's Board of Directors (or equivalent) over five years.
- Strengthen the pipeline of women through an annual review of internal diagnostics and leverage leading practices to address any identified issues.
- Benchmark and track inclusion and improve the culture of inclusion within the organization.
- Share key representation metrics with Catalyst for benchmarking and for anonymized reporting of our collective aggregate progress.

This pledge aligns with H&R Block's [Equality Action Plan](#), outlining specific actions the company is taking to create racial equality, both within the company and in the communities it serves. It also follows H&R Block's [100% score on the Corporate Equality Index](#), as well as its [Day of Understanding](#) as a signatory to the CEO Action for Diversity and Inclusion Pledge, and the creation of Belonging@Block, its diversity, inclusion and belonging council.

"Joining the Catalyst pledge further solidifies our efforts to become a more diverse and inclusive employer -- a place where everyone feels like they belong," said Jeff Jones, president and CEO of H&R Block. "Representation is a big part of creating that sense of belonging. 36% of our leaders are women as is 40% of our board, and while that is better than the S&P 500, our work is far from done. I personally pledge to work toward stronger representation of all women among our senior leaders, particularly through the inclusion of women of color."

"Our *Catalyst CEO Champions For Change* companies represent more than 10 million employees and nearly \$3 trillion dollars in revenue globally. The positive ripple effect from their commitment is tremendous in helping to build workplaces where everyone has a fair chance to succeed," said Lorraine Hariton, president and CEO of Catalyst.

Read the full *Catalyst CEO Champions For Change* [pledge](#) and learn more about [H&R Block's](#) commitment to diversity, inclusion and belonging.

About H&R Block

H&R Block, Inc. (NYSE: HRB) provides help and inspires confidence in its clients and communities everywhere through global [tax preparation](#), [financial services](#), and [small business solutions](#). The company is disrupting the tax industry by providing consumers price transparency and with digital platforms such as [Tax Pro GoSM](#). H&R Block believes the best solutions blend digital capabilities with human expertise and care. For more information, get [H&R Block News](#) online and follow [@HRBlockNews](#).

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