HOUSE BILL No. 2801

By Committee on Health and Human Services

2-1

AN ACT relating to breastfeeding mothers; concerning right to breastfeed; jury duty while breastfeeding; amending K.S.A. 43-158 and repealing the existing section.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

New Section 1. (a) Breast milk is widely acknowledged to be the most complete form of nutrition for infants, with a range of benefits for infant's health, growth, immunity and development and has also been shown to improve maternal health and bonding in addition to contributing to society at large through economic and environmental gains, it is therefore the public policy of Kansas that a mother's choice to breastfeed should be supported and encouraged to the greatest extent possible.

- (b) A mother may breastfeed in any place she has a right to be.
- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 43-158 is hereby amended to read as follows: 43-158. The following persons shall be excused from jury service: (a) Persons unable to understand the English language with a degree of proficiency sufficient to respond to a jury questionnaire form prepared by the commissioner;
 - (b) persons under adjudication of incompetency;
- (c) persons who within 10 years immediately preceding have been convicted of or pleaded guilty, or *nolo contendere*, to an indictment or information charging a felony; and
- (d) persons who have served as jurors in the county within one year immediately preceding; and
- 33 (e) a mother breastfeeding her child. Jury service shall be postponed until such mother is no longer breastfeeding the child.
 - Sec. 3. K.S.A. 43-158 is hereby repealed.
- Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the Kansas register.