

My name is Karen Oxendahl from Williston, North Dakota. I am the mother of five adult children and seven grandchildren, with number eight due in two months.

Having breastfed all of our children, I strongly support a mother's right to do so in a public place without fear of being told to cease and/or leave the premises.

I would like to offer my support to update the language of HB 1105 regarding breastfeeding in public and am not opposed to imposing a fine on an establishment if they ask a woman to cease breastfeeding while on their premises. Eating is, without question, a natural function for babies and they should be allowed to do so whenever they get hungry, whether they are bottle-fed or breastfed.

Having breastfed our children during a time when it was not so acceptable, I am pleased that my daughters-in-law have been blessed with the freedom that was not readily granted to me.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my position in support of HB 1105.