

Senate Concurrent Resolution 2 - Introduced

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2

BY WHITING

1 A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the work of the
2 Mother's Milk Bank of Iowa.

3 WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
4 recommends that infants be exclusively breastfed for
5 approximately the first six months following birth and
6 that infants should continue to be breastfed, along
7 with the introduction of appropriate complementary
8 foods, for one year or longer; and

9 WHEREAS, according to the AAP, human milk feeding
10 decreases the incidence or severity of a wide range of
11 infectious diseases including bacterial meningitis,
12 diarrhea, respiratory tract infections, and urinary
13 tract infections, and results in a lower incidence
14 of the risk of sudden infant death syndrome, Type
15 1 and Type 2 diabetes, overweight and obesity, and
16 asthma; and

17 WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease
18 Control and Prevention of the United States Department
19 of Health and Human Services (CDC) 2010 Breastfeeding
20 Report Card, approximately 75 percent of mothers in the
21 United States start out breastfeeding, but at the end
22 of six months the rates fall to 43 percent, and among
23 African-American mothers the rates are significantly
24 lower as only 58 percent of African-American mothers
25 start out breastfeeding and only 28 percent are
26 breastfeeding at six months; and

27 WHEREAS, according to the CDC, in the United States
28 infants in rural areas are less likely to ever be

1 breastfed than infants living in urban areas; and

2 WHEREAS, according to the CDC, infants eligible
3 for and receiving the Special Supplemental Nutrition
4 Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) are less
5 likely to ever be breastfed than infants eligible but
6 not receiving WIC and infants ineligible for WIC; and

7 WHEREAS, according to the CDC, younger mothers 20 to
8 29 years of age are less likely to ever breastfeed than
9 mothers 30 years of age or older; and

10 WHEREAS, while breastfeeding has many benefits,
11 some women struggle, with 60 percent of mothers unable
12 to breastfeed for as long as they intend to due to
13 factors including issues with lactation and latching,
14 concerns about infant nutrition and weight, mother's
15 concerns about taking medications while breastfeeding,
16 unsupportive work policies and lack of parental
17 leave, cultural norms or lack of family support, and
18 unsupportive hospital practices and policies; and

19 WHEREAS, for those women who are faced with
20 obstacles to breastfeeding or providing breast milk
21 to their infants, it is important to provide an
22 encouraging environment and options; and

23 WHEREAS, one option for women to provide breast milk
24 to their infants is through a milk bank; and

25 WHEREAS, the Human Milk Banking Association of
26 North America, which accredits nonprofit milk banks in
27 the United States and Canada, has 27 members, ensures
28 that the process of helping mothers donate their extra
29 breast milk is evidence-based and clinically sound, and
30 advocates for donor milk as a universal standard of

1 care, regardless of ability to pay; and

2 WHEREAS, the Mother's Milk Bank of Iowa operates
3 in accordance with the Human Milk Banking Association
4 of North America guidelines for the establishment and
5 operation of a donor human milk bank; and

6 WHEREAS, the Mother's Milk Bank of Iowa was launched
7 in August 2002 during World Breastfeeding Week,
8 co-founded by Jean Drulis and Ekhard Ziegler, M.D.,
9 with funds generated from grants, foundations, and
10 gifts; and

11 WHEREAS, the mission of the Mother's Milk Bank of
12 Iowa is to improve the health of infants across the
13 United States by providing pasteurized donor human milk
14 to families and hospitals; and

15 WHEREAS, approximately 20 percent of the milk
16 collected by the Mother's Milk Bank of Iowa is used at
17 the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital
18 to feed infants at the hospital, many of whom are born
19 premature or are battling other medical conditions,
20 and 80 percent of the milk collected is distributed to
21 families and other hospitals; and

22 WHEREAS, as of 2017, 1,590 donors had contributed to
23 the Mother's Milk Bank of Iowa and the donated milk had
24 reached infants in 14 states and 39 hospitals across
25 the midwest, and in 2016 alone 187,623 ounces of breast
26 milk were distributed to infants in both inpatient and
27 outpatient settings, reaching infants in 13 states, 87
28 cities, and 40 hospitals, 13 of those hospitals being
29 located in Iowa; NOW THEREFORE,

30 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, THE HOUSE OF

1 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the Mother's Milk
2 Bank of Iowa is recognized for its critical role in
3 supplying breast milk and its benefits to infants both
4 in this state and throughout the United States.