

Senate Concurrent Resolution 6 - Introduced

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO SCR 2)

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

1 infants in rural areas are less likely to ever be
2 breastfed than infants living in urban areas; and

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

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

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

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

24 WHEREAS, one option for caregivers facing obstacles
25 to providing breast milk to infants is through a milk
26 bank; and

27 WHEREAS, the Human Milk Banking Association of
28 North America, which accredits nonprofit milk banks in
29 the United States and Canada, has 27 members, ensures
30 that the process of helping mothers donate their extra

1 breast milk is evidence-based and clinically sound, and
2 advocates for donor milk as a universal standard of
3 care, regardless of ability to pay; and

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

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

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

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

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

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1 located in Iowa; NOW THEREFORE,

2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the Mother's Milk
4 Bank of Iowa is recognized for its critical role in
5 supplying breast milk and its benefits to infants both
6 in this state and throughout the United States.