



Representatives Roy Klopfenstein & Angela King

82nd & 84th House Districts

Rep. Klopfenstein:

Chairman Hillyer, Vice Chair Mathews, Ranking Member Galonski, and members of the House Civil Justice Committee, We appreciate the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony on House Bill 34.

The motivation behind this legislation came from a young mother that reached out to me after she was summoned for jury duty not long after she gave birth. She then requested to be excused and was denied, placing her in an impossible decision of complying with the law or taking care of her child.

This legislation seeks to ease this burden on mothers by establishing a jury duty exemption for a mother with a child a year old or younger, who is breast feeding. All that is required of the mother is that she submits a signed affidavit to the court to be excused.

Similar legislation already exists in 18 other states, including that state up north. It is a simple fix that works to strengthen our families.

I respectfully ask for your support of this legislation. Thank you all for your time and I will pass things over to my joint sponsor Representative King.

Rep. King:

Chairman Hillyer, Vice Chair Mathews, Ranking Member Galonski, and members of the House Civil Justice Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony on House Bill 34.

As a mother, I was surprised to learn that this was a problem, this early time in development is vital for forming bonds between mother and child and disruption during this time can affect the well-being of both.

Current law already includes exemptions for reasons such as age and illness just to name a few, it seems to me that this is simple issue that may have been overlooked when the original exemptions were created and we want to make sure this problem is corrected.

I would like to thank you again for the opportunity to testify and I respectfully ask for your support. We welcome any questions that you may have.