

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

As a prospective juror with a child who is one year of age or younger, this bill would benefit me in easing my burden of trying to comply with jury duty and taking care of my child. As a mother who is exclusively breast feeding, I am, for this reason, unable to leave the child with a caregiver. Young children, especially under the age of one, are very demanding physically and mentally as their eating and sleeping patterns are irregular. I cannot guarantee when the baby will need to feed, or wake up crying. Since I am the sole caregiver, as my husband works full time, it is my responsibility to tend to its needs. As the mother, time spent with my baby is very important as well, as this positively helps the child's mental and emotional development. Being called into jury duty in this situation will therefore cause extreme physical hardship not only for me, but for my baby as well.

Thank you for your time and I respectfully ask for your support of this legislation.

Alina Korpi