



Representative Roy Klopfenstein
82nd House District

Chairman Manning, Vice Chair Reynolds, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Senate Judiciary 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. This legislation was passed with broad support in both the House Civil Justice Committee and on the House floor. 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.