

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

Senate Bill No. 4

(By Senators Foster, Kessler (Mr. President), Klempa and Wells)

[Originating in the Committee on the Judiciary;
reported February 24, 2012.]

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §16-1-19, relating to a child's right to nurse; and authorizing a mother to breast feed a child in any location where the mother and child have a right to be.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §16-1-19, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 1. STATE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM.

§16-1-19. Child's right to nurse; location where permitted; right protected.

1 (a) The Legislature finds that breast feeding is an
2 important, basic act of nurturing that is protected in the
3 interests of maternal and child health.

4 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the
5 contrary, a mother may breast feed a child in any location,
6 public or private, where the mother and child are otherwise
7 authorized to be.

(NOTE: This section is new; therefore, strike-throughs and underscoring have been omitted.)