

## 2009 SENATE BILL 16

January 26, 2009 – Introduced by Senators RISSER, ERPENBACH, WIRCH, DARLING, SCHULTZ, COWLES, SULLIVAN and LEHMAN, cosponsored by Representatives PASCH, PARISI, SINICKI, BENEDICT, BLACK, POPE-ROBERTS, ROYS, POCAN, HILGENBERG, BERCEAU, MASON, MOLEPSKE, VRUWINK, CULLEN, HINTZ, TOWNSEND, TOLES and BALLWEG. Referred to Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long-Term Care, and Job Creation.

1     **AN ACT to create** 253.16 of the statutes; **relating to:** permitting a mother to  
 2           breast-feed in any public or private location where she is otherwise authorized  
 3           to be.

---

### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, there are various prohibitions against lewd behavior or sexual gratification in public. Those prohibitions, however, do not apply to a mother's breast-feeding of her child. This bill permits a mother to breast-feed her child in any public or private location where she is otherwise authorized to be and prohibits any person from interfering with the right of a mother to breast-feed her child as provided in the bill. Because no penalty is expressed in the bill for interfering with that right, a person who interferes with that right is subject to a forfeiture not to exceed \$200 under the general penalty provision under current law.

---

***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

4           **SECTION 1.** 253.16 of the statutes is created to read:  
 5           **253.16 Right to breast-feed.** A mother may breast-feed her child in any  
 6           public or private location where the mother is otherwise authorized to be. No person

**SENATE BILL 16**

1 may interfere with the right of a mother to breast-feed her child as provided in this  
2 section.

3 **SECTION 2. Initial applicability.**

4 (1) RIGHT TO BREAST-FEED. This act first applies to acts occurring on the effective  
5 date of this subsection.

6 (END)