

HB 1320 -- JURY SERVICE

SPONSOR: Ellinger

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Children, Families, and Persons with Disabilities by a vote of 11 to 1.

This bill adds any mother who is breast-feeding a child to the list of individuals who must be excused from jury service upon timely application to the court.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill is in response to a judge that does not understand the law already allows women that are breast feeding to be exempt from jury duty. The bill clarifies the issue by specifically adding breast feeding women to the list of those individuals exempt from jury service.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Ellinger; Dr. Elizabeth Allemann; Sara Davison; Wayne Witte; Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services; and JoAnn Shrader.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.