

H. B. 4540

(By Delegates L. Phillips, Hatfield, Guthrie,
Perdue and Mahan)

[Introduced February 15, 2012; referred to the

Committee on Health and Human Resources then the Judiciary.]

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 making a statement by the Legislature that nursing in a public place is socially acceptable.

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.

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

(b) A mother may breast feed a child in any location, public

1 or private, where the mother and child are otherwise authorized to
2 be.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to declare a child's right to nurse and making a statement by the Legislature that nursing in a public place is socially acceptable.

This section is new; therefore, it has been completely underscored.