

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 29

BY SENATOR BROOME

A RESOLUTION

To recognize the importance of proper infant nutrition and the creation of outreach nutritional and health screening programs and acknowledge the benefits of breastfeeding for both infants and mothers.

WHEREAS, scientific research demonstrates that good nutrition beginning in utero and extending throughout the first year of life is critical to the healthy growth and development of infants; and

WHEREAS, research further shows that breastfeeding is the best form of infant nutrition by providing certain health benefits for both the mother and child; and

WHEREAS, the Surgeon General and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend babies be exclusively fed with breast milk for the first six months of life, and continue on with breast milk through the first year of life; and

WHEREAS, the United States government's Healthy People 2020 goals seek to increase the percentage of women initiating breastfeeding to 81.9% and still continuing to breastfeed when their baby is six months of age to 60.6%; and

WHEREAS, it is a personal choice for a mother in how she feeds her baby, one which is often made based on the best feeding option for her infant given her and her family's life circumstance, including familial, cultural, and community issues as well as based on barriers to breastfeeding, including returning to work, medical difficulties, and lack of breastfeeding support; and

WHEREAS, the Surgeon General's Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and other public health organizations promote breastfeeding goals, promote other dietary guidance for feeding an infant under age two, and identify what a mother should do if she cannot or chooses not to breastfeed or needs to supplement breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, infant nutrition research has generated a range of iron-fortified infant formulas that addresses a critical need in providing a safe and nutritious alternative to breast milk for mothers who cannot or choose not to breastfeed; and

WHEREAS, new mothers should be adequately informed about the feeding options available to them and need information, guidance, and support in order to make a decision that helps them provide the best nutritional start for their babies.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the importance of proper infant nutrition and the creation of outreach nutritional and health screening programs.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE