



## WISCONSIN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

TO: Senator Patrick Testin, Chair  
Members, Committee on Labor, Regulatory Reform, Veterans and Military Affairs

FROM: Barbara Sella, Executive Director

DATE: October 5, 2023

RE: Support for Senate Bill 430 Breastfeeding Breaks

---

The Wisconsin Catholic Conference (WCC), the public policy voice of the Catholic bishops of Wisconsin, appreciates the opportunity to offer testimony in support of Senate Bill 430.

This bill provides commonsense protection for mothers and their children in alignment with the new federal PUMP for Nursing Mothers Act. This bipartisan legislation not only aligns with the PUMP Act but is also part and parcel to embracing both mother and child. Breastfeeding is considered the clinical gold standard, providing many health benefits to both mothers and their babies. It does, however, require time to express throughout the workday. This bill ensures that working mothers and their children can both receive these health benefits, and that there will be resources within their workplace to express and keep breastmilk. It also ensures that mothers will not lose health insurance if their hours are impacted.

Wisconsin has a long history of high participation of women in the labor force, but not enough has been done to respect and accommodate mothers and families in the workforce. If Wisconsin is to be a place where both women and children can thrive, our workplaces must become more humane and accommodating to family life. The PUMP Act and SB 430 are a great first step in that direction. We strongly urge you to pass the bill.