

- SUBJECT:** Providing space for a public employee to express breast milk
- COMMITTEE:** State Affairs — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 12 ayes — Phelan, Deshotel, Guerra, Harless, Holland, Hunter, P. King, Parker, Raymond, E. Rodriguez, Smithee, Springer
- 0 nays
- 1 absent — Hernandez
- WITNESSES:** For — Patty Quinzi, Texas-American Federation of Teachers; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Mark Wiggins, Association of Texas Professional Educators; Andrea Reyes and Claudia Yoli Ferla, Deeds Not Words; Claire Bocchini, Doctors for Change; Caitlin Boehne, Equal Justice Center; Susanne Kerns, Informed Parents of Austin; Tina Hester, Jane's Due Process; Erika Galindo, Lilith Fund for Reproductive Equity; Aimee Arrambide, Emily Martin, and Blake Rocap, NARAL Pro-Choice Texas; Will Francis, National Association of Social Workers-Texas Chapter; Kristine Keller, Operation Lactation; Mellissa Alvarado, Texas Breastfeeding Coalition; Lonnie Hollingsworth, Texas Classroom Teachers Association; Carisa Lopez, Texas Freedom Network; Elizabeth Ballew, Texas Handmaids; Michelle Romero, Texas Medical Association; Clayton Travis, Texas Pediatric Society; Tyler Sheldon, Texas State Employees Union; and 63 individuals)
- Against — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Lou Weaver)
- BACKGROUND:** Government Code sec. 619.004 requires a public employer to provide a reasonable amount of break time and a private place, other than a multiple user bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion and where an employee can express breast milk. Interested parties say that public employers should provide a place other than a bathroom for a woman expressing breast milk to ensure a healthy environment.
- DIGEST:** HB 1041 would require a public employer to provide a place, other than a

bathroom, that was shielded from view and free from intrusion from other employees and the public where the employee could express breast milk.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.