

(H. B. 1185)

**(No. 65)**

(Approved August 24, 2005)

**AN ACT**

To amend Sections 1 and 2 of Act No. 155 of August 10, 2002, to include the Legislature, to wit, the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, within the Instrumentalities that are bound to establish a Breastfeeding Room in the work areas.

**STATEMENT OF MOTIVES**

Motherhood is one of the most desired moments by every woman who wishes to start a family. It is one of the most significant stages that marks the beginning of a continuous process of learning and teaching simultaneously. It is of such importance that women are granted a maternity leave which comprises the prenatal and postpartum period as a fringe benefit of their jobs.

In view of this, Act No. 155 of August 10, 2002, was created which directs the Secretaries of the Departments, the Executive Directors of the Agencies, the Presidents of Public Corporations and the Directors and Administrators of the public instrumentalities of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to designate breastfeeding areas in the workplace. However, the Legislature was not included within the parameters of said Act.

Therefore, we deem it necessary for the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to establish said special

breastfeeding areas, that would allow working mothers in the Legislature to extract their milk, and thus provide them with the space and privacy needed for this process.

***BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:***

Section 1.- Section 1 of Act No. 155 of August 10, 2002, is hereby amended, to read as follows:

“Section 1.- This Act recognizes the right of every working mother to breastfeed her child in an adequate physical area, as established by Act No. 427 of December 16, 2000. It is hereby provided that the Secretaries of the Departments, the Executive Directors of the Agencies, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, the Presidents of Public Corporations and the Directors and Administrators of the instrumentalities of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall provide the resources available to each public entity, to safeguard the right to privacy of breastfeeding mothers who wish to nurse their babies.”

Section 2.- Section 2 of Act No. 155 of August 10, 2002, is hereby amended, to read as follows:

“Section 2.- The Secretaries, Presidents, Executive Directors and Directors of the government entities and the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate shall establish regulations for the operation of these centers.”

Section 3.- This Act shall take effect ninety (90) days after its approval.

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 65 (H.B. 1185) of the 1st Session of the 15<sup>th</sup> Legislature of Puerto Rico:

**AN ACT** to amend Sections 1 and 2 of Act No. 155 of August 10, 2002, to include the Legislature, to wit, the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, within the Instrumentalities that are bound to establish a Breastfeeding Room in the work areas,

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 1st of February of 2006.

Francisco J. Domenech  
Director

