



Legislation Text

File #: 49504, Version: 1

Fiscal Note

No fiscal impact.

Title

Amending Sections 2.31 and 33.01(9)(b) of the Madison General Ordinances to protect the right to breastfeed in the Council chambers and at committee meetings.

Body

DRAFTER'S ANALYSIS: In a recent incident in another Wisconsin community, a member of the Common Council was denied the right to breastfeed her child, based on rules governing the Council chambers. This ordinance protects the right to breastfeed in the Madison Common Council chambers, as well as at meetings of City boards, commissions, and committees.

The Common Council of the City of Madison do hereby ordain as follows:

1. Section 2.31 entitled "No Persons Allowed on Council Floor Except Members of Council" of the Madison General Ordinances is amended to read as follows:

"2.31 NO PERSONS ALLOWED ON COUNCIL FLOOR EXCEPT MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

No persons except members and officers of the Council or City Staff shall be allowed to come to the Council floor during the session of the Council without the permission of the presiding officer. The Council may designate certain seats in the rear of the Council Chambers for media. This section shall not apply to a child who is breastfeeding, nor shall it be interpreted to interfere with the right of breastfeeding in Council chambers, as protected by Wis. Stat. § 253.165 and Sec. 23.37, MGO."

2. Subdivision (b) of Subsection (9) entitled "Minutes and Rules of Procedures" of Section 33.01 entitled "Boards, Commissions, and Committees Procedures" of the Madison General Ordinances is amended to read as follows:

"(b) Boards, committees, and commissions may adopt rules of procedure. Such rules may not conflict with ordinances or resolutions of the Common Council. In case the Sub-unit does not adopt rules of procedure, it shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, insofar as Robert's Rules of Order does not conflict with ordinances or resolutions of the Common Council. Sub-units shall follow the procedure set forth in Sec. 2.21, MGO, on motions for reconsideration, and shall not modify this rule. A motion to reconsider shall not be in order before any sub-unit when the matter approved has been partially or fully carried out, including actions by City employees, or by the Council or another sub-unit of the City, by acting upon a recommendation made to the body. Sub-units shall review and make any changes in rules of procedure every two (2) years, which shall be filed with the City Clerk by July 1 of even-numbered years. Boards, commissions and committees shall not adopt rules of procedure that interfere with the right of breastfeeding as protected by Wis. Stat. § 253.165 and Sec. 23.37, MGO."