

## House Resolution 1124

By: Representatives Scott of the 76<sup>th</sup>, Dawkins-Haigler of the 93<sup>rd</sup>, Stephenson of the 92<sup>nd</sup>, Dickerson of the 95<sup>th</sup>, and Beasley-Teague of the 65<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the importance of proper infant nutrition and acknowledging the benefits of  
2 breastfeeding for both infants and mothers; and for other purposes.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
31 the members of this body recognize the importance of proper infant nutrition and the creation  
32 of outreach nutritional and health screening programs.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
34 and directed to transmit an appropriate copies of this resolution to members of the public and  
35 the press.