

## **Support for Employees Who Are Breastfeeding**

As of January 1, 2002, employers in California must provide breaks and a private place (other than a bathroom stall) for women to express breast milk. This is not the first time that the state has taken steps to protect the rights of breastfeeding women when they return to work. In 1998, legislation was passed that encouraged employers to support breastfeeding women when they return to work by ensuring adequate facilities are available for them to either breastfeed or express breast milk.

The current law (AB 1025, signed on October 12, 2001) requires that "adequate facilities" are a clean, private place (not a restroom), with a chair and electrical outlet, with access to running water and refrigerated storage.

Employees with these needs should talk with their manager about arranging this accommodation. Managers are encouraged to find appropriate facilities for breastfeeding women under their supervision. If you need assistance, or have questions, please call Human Resources at 278-2364. Human Resources can help locate a suitable facility if none exists in the immediate work area. Questions about this policy should be referred to the office of the Director of Human Resources. Additional information is available at the following website:

[http://info.sen.ca.gov/pub/01-02/bill/asm/ab\\_1001-1050/ab\\_1025\\_bill\\_20011013\\_chaptered.html](http://info.sen.ca.gov/pub/01-02/bill/asm/ab_1001-1050/ab_1025_bill_20011013_chaptered.html)

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