

Good afternoon, I would like to begin by thanking the Chair and Committee Members for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Kristina Fedran and I am so grateful to testify in support of SB21-193. I am 37 years old and a mother to three amazing children now ages 2, 4 & 6. On September 29, 2019 I was arrested by Commerce City Police on alleged charges of domestic violence. I did not do what I was accused of and those charges have all been dismissed.

At the time, I was strictly nursing, my youngest son was 12 months old and had never taken a bottle. I was separated from all three of my children even after repeatedly telling officers my youngest was nursing. This was disregarded by officers and Adams County Detention staff. I needed a breast pump. I made them aware of this and nothing was done. I became painfully engorged and did my best to compress my breasts with my hand and a wet towel. I was not given pads and leaked through my shirt several times. I was told by the female night guard when I first came in that they do not provide pumps for people like me. By the time I got out of jail my breasts were rock hard, my son had been forced to abruptly stop nursing and I was on my way to drying up.

I asked several of the staff multiple times including one in the control center for a pump and sadly nothing was done. While I understand there are people in jail that have committed a crime, I was not one of them. It's just taken awhile to prove this. I am reaching out to you today to request change to how this is handled regardless of whether a person is guilty or not guilty. It is supposed to be in the best interest of the children. That is what was repeatedly stated in my court proceedings and I am a firm believer in this. However, I do not feel this was in the best interest of my children in this case. I cannot bear the thought of another nursing mother having to go through this. It's weighed way too heavily on my heart. I will never get that time back, that bond was broken and there is nothing I can do about it. The damage is done. I watch my now 2

1/2 year old son grab his neck all of the time which he never did before but always did to my breast while nursing. We began therapy but there is a long road ahead. My intentions of testifying today was to tell you my story and to promote change so no other family will be subjected to what my children and I went through. I ask for a yes vote on SB193. Thank you for listening. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Kristina Fedran