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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 953

02/17/2025 Authored by West; Hanson, J.; Rehrauer; Stephenson; Knudsen and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to health; requiring hospitals and birth centers to educate parents on
1.3 recognizing physical abuse in infants; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota
1.4 Statutes, chapter 144.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. [144.575] EDUCATION ON RECOGNIZING PHYSICAL ABUSE IN
1.7 INFANTS.

1.8 (a) All hospitals licensed under sections 144.50 to 144.56 and birth centers licensed
1.9 under section 144.615 must provide the parents of each newborn born at the hospital or
1.10 birth center with written materials to educate parents on how to recognize the signs of
1.11 physical abuse in infants and how to report suspected physical abuse of infants. Hospitals
1.12 and birth centers must provide written materials obtained from or approved by the
1.13 commissioner of health, and must provide these written materials to the newborn's parents
1.14 before the newborn is discharged from the hospital or birth center after birth.

1.15 (b) The commissioner must:

1.16 (1) develop and make available to hospitals, birth centers, and interested individuals, at
1.17 cost, written materials for hospitals and birth centers to provide to parents of newborns
1.18 according to paragraph (a); and

1.19 (2) review and approve or disapprove written materials submitted by hospitals and birth
1.20 centers for provision to parents of newborns according to paragraph (a).

- 2.1 If the commissioner disapproves written materials submitted to the commissioner under
2.2 this paragraph, the commissioner may suggest modifications to the written materials that,
2.3 if made, would allow the commissioner to approve the written materials.