

**Senate File 2171 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2171

BY GUTH, CARLIN, and SCHULTZ

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the administration of the hepatitis B  
2 vaccine to newborns.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 135.131A Hepatitis B vaccine for  
2 newborns — consent required.

3 1. For the purposes of this section, unless the context  
4 otherwise requires:

5 a. "*Birth center*" means birth center as defined in section  
6 135.61.

7 b. "*Birthing hospital*" means a private or public hospital  
8 licensed pursuant to chapter 135B that has a licensed obstetric  
9 unit or is licensed to provide obstetric services.

10 2. A birthing hospital or birth center shall comply with all  
11 of the following regarding the administration of the hepatitis  
12 B vaccine to a newborn:

13 a. The staff of the birthing hospital or birth center shall  
14 offer to a pregnant woman at the time of the woman's admission  
15 to the birthing hospital or birth center administration of  
16 the vaccine to the woman's newborn. The pregnant woman shall  
17 be provided with educational materials regarding the vaccine  
18 to help the pregnant woman make an informed decision. The  
19 educational materials shall include but are not limited to  
20 information that the hepatitis B vaccine is not mandatory  
21 at birth, information regarding the vaccine's safety and  
22 the possible side effects and adverse events related to the  
23 vaccine, and information regarding how to identify an adverse  
24 reaction and how to report an adverse reaction to the vaccine  
25 adverse event reporting system co-managed by the centers for  
26 disease control and prevention of the United States department  
27 of health and human services and the United States food and  
28 drug administration.

29 b. Following the offer to administer the vaccine, the staff  
30 shall receive a written refusal or consent from the pregnant  
31 woman. A copy of the written refusal or consent shall be  
32 retained in the newborn's medical record.

33 c. If written consent is obtained, the vaccine shall be  
34 administered in accordance with the recommendations of the  
35 centers for disease control and prevention of the United States

1 department of health and human services.

2 3. If a newborn is delivered in a location other than a  
3 birthing hospital or a birth center, the physician or other  
4 health care professional who undertakes the care of the newborn  
5 shall comply with the requirements of subsection 2.

6 EXPLANATION

7 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
8 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

9 This bill relates to the administration of the hepatitis B  
10 vaccine to newborns.

11 The bill requires a birthing hospital or birth center,  
12 as defined in the bill, to comply with specific requirements  
13 regarding the administration of the hepatitis B vaccine to a  
14 newborn. The bill requires that the staff of the birthing  
15 hospital or birth center shall offer to the pregnant woman  
16 at the time of admission administration of the vaccine to  
17 the woman's newborn, and shall provide the pregnant woman  
18 with educational materials regarding the vaccine to help the  
19 pregnant woman make an informed decision. The educational  
20 materials shall include but are not limited to information that  
21 the vaccine is not mandatory at birth, information regarding  
22 the vaccine's safety and the possible side effects and adverse  
23 events related to the vaccine, and information regarding how to  
24 identify an adverse event and report the adverse event to the  
25 national adverse event reporting system.

26 Following the offer to administer the vaccine, the staff  
27 shall receive a written refusal or consent from the pregnant  
28 woman, and shall retain a copy of the written refusal or  
29 consent in the newborn's medical record.

30 If written consent is obtained, the vaccine shall be  
31 administered in accordance with the recommendations of the  
32 centers for disease control and prevention of the United States  
33 department of health and human services.

34 If a newborn is delivered in a location other than a birthing  
35 hospital or a birth center, the physician or other health care

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1 professional who undertakes the care of the newborn shall  
2 comply with the requirements of the bill.