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## DIGEST

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HB 171 Engrossed

2016 Regular Session

Hodges

**Abstract:** Requires birthing centers to offer to parents of newborns the opportunity to receive information and view a video presentation on shaken baby syndrome and sudden infant death syndrome.

Proposed law provides definitions.

Proposed law provides findings relative to the dangers of shaken baby syndrome and sudden unexpected infant death. Declares that prevention of these conditions is a major public health priority of this state.

Proposed law requires every birthing center, hospital, and licensed midwife in this state to share resources with each maternity patient and father of a newborn child, if available, regarding shaken baby syndrome and sudden unexpected infant death.

Proposed law requires DHH to promulgate all administrative rules as are necessary to implement the provisions of proposed law. Provides that at minimum, the rules shall designate the compendium of resources approved for use in accordance with the requirements of proposed law. Requires that the resources, collectively, address all of the following:

- (1) The dangers of shaking infants and children.
- (2) The symptoms of shaken baby syndrome.
- (3) The dangers associated with rough handling or striking of an infant.
- (4) Safety measures which can be taken to prevent sudden unexpected infant death.
- (5) The risks associated with infants sleeping in the same bed with other children or adults.

Proposed law requires DHH to ensure that all approved resources provided for in proposed law are publicly available, through the department's website or any other means, to the facilities and persons to which proposed law applies.

(Adds R.S. 40:1086.1-1086.4)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Delete the defined term "birthing facility", its corresponding definition, and instances of the term from proposed law, and add in lieu thereof the following defined term and definition: ""Birthing center" means a healthcare facility, the primary purpose of which is the performance of low-risk deliveries, where births are planned to occur away from the mother's usual residence following a low-risk pregnancy, and which is not a hospital or a facility licensed as part of a hospital."
2. Delete the defined term "sudden infant death syndrome", its corresponding definition, and instances of the term from proposed law, and add in lieu thereof the following defined term and definition: ""Sudden unexpected infant death" means the death of an infant of less than one year of age, the cause of which is not immediately obvious before investigation, that occurs suddenly and unexpectedly. A sudden unexpected infant death requires the performance of a thorough postmortem investigation that includes a complete autopsy, an examination of the death scene, and a review of the clinical history of the deceased child. The term includes ill-defined and unknown causes of mortality, sudden infant death syndrome, and accidental suffocation and strangulation in bed."
3. Provide legislative findings relative to sudden unexpected infant death.
4. Extend application of proposed law to hospitals and licensed midwives.
5. Delete provisions requiring that after parents of newborns view a presentation and read certain materials, or upon their refusal to do so, the facilities to which proposed law applies shall request that those persons sign a form indicating that they viewed and read, or refused to view and read, the presentation and materials.
6. Delete provisions of proposed law requiring DHH, through administrative rulemaking, to approve one or more video presentations and the compendium of printed materials for use in accordance with proposed law.
7. Require that DHH, through administrative rulemaking, approve the compendium of resources for use in accordance with proposed law; and that these resources shall, collectively, address all of the following:
  - (a) The dangers of shaking infants and children.
  - (b) The symptoms of shaken baby syndrome.
  - (c) The dangers associated with rough handling or striking of an infant.
  - (d) Safety measures which can be taken to prevent sudden unexpected infant death.

- (e) The risks associated with infants sleeping in the same bed with other children or adults.
8. Delete provisions authorizing DHH to furnish any presentation or materials provided for in proposed law to the facilities to which proposed law applies; and add in lieu thereof provisions requiring DHH to ensure that all approved resources provided for in proposed law are publicly available, through the department's website or any other means, to the facilities and persons to which proposed law applies.