

HB 2644 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Malstrom

House Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 03/13/17

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Alonso Leon, Buehler, Greenlick, Hack, Hayden, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Malstrom, Nosse

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Provides that the most effective procedure be used in the administration of Vitamin K.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The use of Vitamin K in newborns
- Important clotting factor for newborns
- Concerns associated with using Vitamin K injections in newborns
- Side-effects of using Vitamin K injections
- Proposed amendment

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Removes references to oral and injection and replaces with "the most effective procedures for administering vitamin K."

BACKGROUND:

Vitamin K is necessary for blood to clot, which prevents severe bleeding and blood loss. Vitamin K does not cross the placenta from expecting mother to the developing baby. After birth, there is little Vitamin K in breast milk and breastfed newborns can have a Vitamin K deficiency for several weeks following birth. Infant formula often has added Vitamin K, but even formula-fed infants tend to have very low levels of Vitamin K for several days after birth. With low levels of Vitamin K, some infants are susceptible to severe bleeding - sometimes into the brain, causing significant brain damage. To prevent bleeding, infants are routinely given Vitamin K after birth.