

**HB 2644 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Sen. Steiner Hayward

**Senate Committee On Health Care**

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**Action Date:** 05/16/17  
**Action:** Do pass the A-Eng bill.  
**Vote:** 3-0-2-0  
**Yeas:** 3 - Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Steiner Hayward  
**Exc:** 2 - Beyer, Knopp  
**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact  
**Revenue:** No revenue impact  
**Prepared By:** Oliver Droppers, LPRO Analyst

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Provides that the most effective procedure be used in the administration of vitamin K to newborn infants.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Purpose of administering vitamin K supplement to newborn infants
- Vitamin K deficiency and internal bleeding in infants including late onset of vitamin K deficiency bleeding
- Whether the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved an oral or tablet form of vitamin K to administer to newborns
- Efficacy and clinical effectiveness of vitamin K supplement for newborns; oral administration vs. intramuscular injection
- History on why the state's vitamin K protocol requirement was placed in statute rather than administrative rule
- Parental rights and informed medical decision-making

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, a vitamin K shot is essential in preventing serious bleeding in newborns. For all newborns, vitamin K is necessary for blood to clot, which prevents severe bleeding and blood loss. There is minimal vitamin K in breast milk and breast-fed newborns can have a vitamin K deficiency for several weeks following birth. Infant formula has added vitamin K, however, formula-fed infants may also have insufficient 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 severe bleeding, infants are routinely given vitamin K as an intramuscular injection.

House Bill 2644-A requires health care professionals to administer vitamin K to newborn infants by the most effective means.