



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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H.B. 448

130th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Stinziano and Kunze, Antonio, Mallory, Milkovich, Ramos, Stebelton

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) to develop educational materials regarding infant safe-sleeping practices and to make these materials available on its website.
- Requires a hospital or birthing center staff member to review those materials with a parent or other caregiver before discharge following birth.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Educational materials to promote infant safe-sleeping practices

The bill requires the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) to develop educational materials that (1) promote infant safe-sleeping practices and (2) discuss best practices to reduce the incidence of sudden unexpected infant death, including sudden infant death syndrome (see "**Background – definitions**," below). In developing the materials, ODH must consider information on these topics made available by the American Academy of Pediatrics.¹ The bill further requires ODH to make the materials available, free of charge, on its website. ODH must revise the materials as necessary to ensure that the information is current.²

¹ R.C. 3701.66.

² R.C. 3701.66.

Reviewing ODH materials before hospital discharge

The bill requires that, prior to a newborn infant's discharge, each hospital and freestanding birthing center arrange for a nurse or other appropriate staff member to do both of the following:

(1) Review, free of charge, the educational materials prepared by ODH with the newborn infant's parent, guardian, or other caregiver;

(2) Provide the parent, guardian, or other caregiver with the website address for the educational materials.³

The bill also requires the nurse or other staff member who reviews the material with the parent, guardian, or other caregiver to include in the newborn infant's medical record a notation specifying the date and time that the review occurred.⁴

Background – definitions

A sudden unexpected infant death is the death of an infant less than one year of age that occurs suddenly and unexpectedly, the cause of which is not immediately obvious prior to investigation. Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (or SIDS) is the sudden death of an infant less than one year of age that cannot be explained after a thorough investigation is conducted, including an autopsy, examination of the death scene, and review of the clinical history.⁵

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	02-13-14

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³ R.C. 3701.661(B).

⁴ R.C. 3701.661(C).

⁵ See Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Sudden Unexpected Infant Death and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome* (last visited March 7, 2014), available at <<http://www.cdc.gov/sids>>.

