HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Newborn Screening

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Overview

This bill modifies requirements related to the testing done on newborns and storage of the blood samples and tests results. The bill adds, among other things, the ability of the parent or legal guardian to elect to have the newborn screening performed but not to have blood samples or test results stored. This bill also repeals the retention limit for blood samples and test results.

Section

1 Information provided to parents. Amends § 144.125, subdivision 3.

(a) Adds to the requirement that requires the commissioner make information regarding newborn screening be available to childbirth education programs, in addition to health care providers who provide prenatal care as already required by this section.

(b)(1) Adds requirements for information that must be given to parents or legal guardians prior to testing being performed, including:

- benefits associated with storage of blood samples and test results;
- that blood samples and test results will be used in accordance with program operations unless the parent or legal guardian elects not to have the samples and results stored;
- the department may store blood samples unless the parent or legal guardian elects not to have the samples stored;
- legal guardians, in addition to parents already recognized under the section, have the right to elect no newborn screening be performed;

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- parents and legal guardians have the right to request newborn screening be performed but not have blood samples or test results stored; and
- parents or legal guardians may consent, in writing, to have blood samples and test results used for public health studies or research.

(b)(2) Adds requirement that, upon request, parents or legal guardians be provided with forms to request to have the newborn screening performed but not to have the blood samples and test results stored.

- 2 Parental options. Amends § 144.125, subdivision 4. Adds that parents or legal guardians may elect to have the newborn screening performed but not to have the blood samples and test results stored. Adds this election by parents and legal guardians to existing procedures relating to obtaining a signed form and storage of that form.
- 3 Newborn screening program operations. Amends § 144.125, subdivision 5. Adds clause (7) to paragraph (a), which adds utilization of blood samples and test results for studies to the definition of newborn screening operations (this provision is partially reinstates language that was stricken from section 144.125, subd. 9). Modifies paragraph (b) to preclude any research or studies other than those listed in paragraph (a) without written consent.
- **4 Parental options for additional research.** Amends § 144.125, subdivision 7.

(a) Clarifies that the authorization given by parents or legal guardians to have blood samples and test results researched for public health purposes must be in writing.

(b) Removes items from the list of mandatory inclusions on the parental or legal guardian consent form allowing retention and use of blood samples and test results, including removal of:

- information as to the personal identification and use of samples and test results for studies;
- information that explains that the Department of Health will not store blood samples or test results for longer than 18 years from an infant's birth date; and
- the benefits and risks associated with storage of blood samples and test results.
- 5 Storage and use of samples and test results. Amends § 144.125, subdivision 8. Modifies the section to allow the Department of Health to store blood samples and test results beyond 18 years of the infant's birth date unless the parent or legal guardian elected against storage. Adds that if the parent or legal guardian elected against storage, the blood samples must be destroyed within one week of receipt of the request, and test results must be destroyed at the earliest time allowed under Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments regulations

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- 6 Written, informed consent for other use of samples and test results. Amends § 144.125, subdivision 9. Removes the requirement of written consent for the department to store blood samples and test results and use those samples and tests for newborn screening related purposes (this language, absent the requirement for written consent, is moved to section 144.125, subd. 5). Written consent is still required for research related to public health studies or not related to newborn screening.
- 7 **Revoking consent for storage and use.** Amends § 144.125, subdivision 10. Adds individuals 18 years of age or older whose blood was tested to the lists of persons who may revoke approval for storage or use of blood samples or test results. Removes reference to section 144.125, subdivision 6, which is repealed under this bill.
- 8 Limited opt-in exception. Allows parents or legal guardians of infants born prior to the effective date to give the department written consent for the storage and use as described in subdivisions 5 and 8.
- **9 Repealer.** Repeals § 144.125, subdivision 6, which is related to the standard retention period for samples and test results.
- **10 Effective date.** States sections 1 to 9 are effective the day following final enactment.