

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 1247
Version: As introduced

DATE: March 9, 2015

Authors: Laine and others

Subject: Incarcerated women; pregnancy and childbirth

Analyst: Rebecca Pirius, 651-296-5044

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd/.

Section

- 1 **Restraint.** Requires that, if wrist restraints are used on a pregnant, incarcerated woman, they must be applied so the woman may protect herself and her fetus in case of a forward fall.
- 2 **Required annual report.** Requires an annual legislative report by the commissioner of corrections on the use of restraints on pregnant women, women in labor, and postpartum women incarcerated in state and local correctional facilities. No reporting is required on use of handcuffs on the front of the body of a pregnant woman.
- 3 **Applicability.** Technical correction.
- 4 **Requirements.** Amends standard of care provided by correctional facilities relating to incarcerated women: (1) requires current pregnancy testing be taken within 14 days of incarceration (applies to women under age 50 who consent); (2) strikes requirement to test for sexually transmitted diseases and replaces with requirement on providing prevailing medical standard of care; and (8) extends notice on laws and policies to be given to women who have given birth in the past six months (applies currently to pregnant women).
- 5 **Effective date.** All sections effective July 1, 2015.