

BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 1510
By: Bonnen
Public Health
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

More babies between the ages of one month and one year die from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) than any other cause. To increase awareness and educate caregivers about SIDS, the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has developed a fact sheet entitled "Safer Sleep for Babies" that offers precautions against sleep-related infant deaths.

Section 161.501, Health and Safety Code, requires DSHS to publish the "Information for Parents of Newborn Children" resource pamphlet to be provided to parents of newborn children. The Southwest SIDS Research Institute considers this resource pamphlet a practical and beneficial medium for educating parents of newborns about SIDS and how to prevent their child from being a victim.

H.B. 1510 requires information regarding SIDS, including current recommendations for infant sleeping conditions to lower the risk of SIDS, to be added to the "Information for Parents of Newborn Children" resource pamphlet published by DSHS.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

H.B. 1510 amends the Health and Safety Code to add to the information required to be included in the resource pamphlet provided to the parents or caregivers of an infant by a hospital, birthing center, physician, nurse midwife, or midwife information regarding Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), including current recommendations for infant sleeping conditions to lower the risk of SIDS.

H.B. 1510 requires the Department of State Health Services to update the resource pamphlet on the department's website to include information about SIDS not later than January 1, 2010. The bill specifies that a hospital, birthing center, physician, nurse midwife, or midwife who provides prenatal care to a pregnant woman during gestation or at delivery of an infant is not required to provide the updated pamphlet before March 1, 2010.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2009.