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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SIXTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. 1341

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health Care and Human Services Policy and Oversight

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to health; changing provisions in the newborn screening program;
1.3 amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, sections 13.386, subdivision 3; 144.125,
1.4 subdivision 3, by adding subdivisions.

1.5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:**

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 13.386, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

1.7 Subd. 3. **Collection, storage, use, and dissemination of genetic information.** (a)

1.8 Unless otherwise expressly provided by law, genetic information about an individual:

1.9 (1) may be collected by a government entity, as defined in section 13.02, subdivision
1.10 7a, or any other person only with the written informed consent of the individual;

1.11 (2) may be used only for purposes to which the individual has given written
1.12 informed consent;

1.13 (3) may be stored only for a period of time to which the individual has given written
1.14 informed consent; and

1.15 (4) may be disseminated only:

1.16 (i) with the individual's written informed consent; or

1.17 (ii) if necessary in order to accomplish purposes described by clause (2). A consent
1.18 to disseminate genetic information under item (i) must be signed and dated. Unless
1.19 otherwise provided by law, such a consent is valid for one year or for a lesser period
1.20 specified in the consent.

1.21 (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), the Department of Health's collection, storage,
1.22 use, and dissemination of genetic information and blood specimens for testing infants for
1.23 heritable and congenital disorders are governed by sections 144.125 to 144.128.

1.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.1 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 144.125, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

2.2 Subd. 3. ~~Obj~~**ection of parents to test Information provided to parents.** ~~Persons~~
2.3 ~~with a duty to perform testing under subdivision 1 shall advise parents of infants (1) that~~
2.4 ~~the blood or tissue samples used to perform testing thereunder as well as the results of~~
2.5 ~~such testing may be retained by the Department of Health, (2) the benefit of retaining the~~
2.6 ~~blood or tissue sample, and (3) that the following options are available to them with~~
2.7 ~~respect to the testing: (i) to decline to have the tests, or (ii) to elect to have the tests but to~~
2.8 ~~require that all blood samples and records of test results be destroyed within 24 months~~
2.9 ~~of the testing. If the parents of an infant object in writing to testing for heritable and~~
2.10 ~~congenital disorders or elect to require that blood samples and test results be destroyed,~~
2.11 ~~the objection or election shall be recorded on a form that is signed by a parent or legal~~
2.12 ~~guardian and made part of the infant's medical record. A written objection exempts an~~
2.13 ~~infant from the requirements of this section and section 144.128. (a) Prior to collecting a~~
2.14 ~~sample, persons with a duty to perform testing under subdivision 1 must provide parents~~
2.15 ~~or legal guardians of infants with a document that provides the following information:~~

2.16 (1) the blood sample will be used to test for heritable and congenital disorders, the
2.17 blood sample will be retained by the Department of Health for a period of two years, and
2.18 that blood sample may be used for newborn screening program operations;

2.19 (2) the data that will be collected as a result of the testing;

2.20 (3) the alternatives available to the parents or legal guardians in paragraph (c) and
2.21 that a form to exercise the alternatives is available to the parent or legal guardian from the
2.22 person with a duty to perform testing under subdivision 1;

2.23 (4) the benefits of testing and the consequences of a decision to permit or refuse
2.24 to supply a sample;

2.25 (5) the benefits of retaining the blood sample and the consequences of a decision
2.26 to destroy the blood sample or to permit or decline to have the blood sample used for
2.27 newborn screening program operations;

2.28 (6) the ways in which the samples and data collected will be stored and used at the
2.29 Department of Health and elsewhere; and

2.30 (7) the Department of Health's Web site address where the forms in paragraph (c)
2.31 may be obtained.

2.32 This document satisfies the requirements of section 13.04, subdivision 2.

2.33 (b) The person with a duty to perform testing must record that parents or legal
2.34 guardians of infants have received the information provided under this subdivision and
2.35 have had an opportunity to ask questions.

3.1 (c) The parent or legal guardian of an infant otherwise subject to testing under this
3.2 section may object to any of the following:

3.3 (1) the testing itself;

3.4 (2) the storage of the infant's blood samples;

3.5 (3) the storage of the infant's test results for a period longer than 24 months; and

3.6 (4) the use of the infant's blood samples and test results for newborn screening
3.7 program operations.

3.8 If a parent or legal guardian elects to object to one or more of the alternatives in this
3.9 paragraph, the election shall be recorded on a form that is signed by the parent or legal
3.10 guardian. The signed form shall be made part of the infant's medical record and shall be
3.11 provided to the Department of Health. The signature of the parent or legal guardian is
3.12 sufficient and no witness to the signature, photo identification, or notarization shall be
3.13 required. When a parent or legal guardian elects an alternative under this subdivision, the
3.14 Department of Health must follow the election and section 144.128. A written election
3.15 exempts an infant from the requirements of this section and section 144.128.

3.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.17 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 144.125, is amended by adding a subdivision
3.18 to read:

3.19 **Subd. 4. Storage and use of samples for newborn screening program operations.**

3.20 The department may store and use the newborn screening program blood samples for up
3.21 to 24 months for newborn screening program operations and may store samples for an
3.22 additional month to carry out the destruction of samples required under subdivision 7.

3.23 The department may also use and store the newborn screening samples for individual
3.24 health-related studies or any other purpose with a written informed consent of the parent
3.25 or legal guardian.

3.26 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.27 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 144.125, is amended by adding a subdivision
3.28 to read:

3.29 **Subd. 5. Newborn screening program operations.** "Newborn screening program
3.30 operations" means actions, testing, and procedures directly related to the improvement,
3.31 implementation, and development of the newborn screening program, such as the testing
3.32 of the samples, confirmatory testing, laboratory quality control, calibration of equipment,
3.33 evaluating and improving the accuracy of newborn screening tests, implementation and

4.1 validation of equipment and technology, and studies or research related to the development
4.2 of new newborn screening tests.

4.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

4.4 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 144.125, is amended by adding a subdivision
4.5 to read:

4.6 **Subd. 6. Development of new screening tests.** When samples are used for
4.7 program operations to develop new newborn screening tests, the department must remove
4.8 information that directly links infants to samples, but may use serial numbers that would
4.9 allow a relinkage in case a serious issue is discovered that needs to be communicated to
4.10 the parent or guardian of an infant. Such a relinkage may only be done after consultation
4.11 with an ethics committee or an institutional review board.

4.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

4.13 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 144.125, is amended by adding a subdivision
4.14 to read:

4.15 **Subd. 7. Destruction of samples within 25 months.** Unless a parent or legal
4.16 guardian has given written informed consent, the department must destroy all newborn
4.17 screening blood samples within 25 months of the month of birth.

4.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

4.19 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 144.125, is amended by adding a subdivision
4.20 to read:

4.21 **Subd. 8. Records retention requirements.** The department shall retain test results
4.22 in compliance with section 138.17.

4.23 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

4.24 Sec. 8. **NEWBORN SCREENING REPORT.**

4.25 By January 15, 2010, the Department of Health shall report and make
4.26 recommendations to the legislature on its current efforts for ensuring and enhancing how
4.27 parents or legal guardians of newborns are fully informed about the newborn screening
4.28 program and of their rights and options regarding: (1) testing; (2) storage; (3) public
4.29 health practices, studies, and research; (4) the ability to opt out of the collection of data
4.30 and specimens related to the testing; and (5) the ability to seek private testing.

5.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.