

**HB 2644 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Health Care**

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**Prepared By:** Oliver Droppers, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 4/11

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Provides that the most effective procedure be used in the administration of Vitamin K to newborn infants.

*Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact.*

*Revenue: No revenue impact.*

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Vitamin K is necessary for blood to clot, which prevents severe bleeding and blood loss. Vitamin K does not cross the placenta from expecting mother to the developing baby. After birth, there is little Vitamin K in breast milk and breastfed newborns can have a Vitamin K deficiency for several weeks following birth. Infant formula often has added Vitamin K, but formula-fed infants may have low levels of Vitamin K for several days after birth. With low levels of Vitamin K, some infants are susceptible to severe bleeding - sometimes into the brain, causing significant brain damage. To prevent bleeding, infants are routinely given Vitamin K after birth.