

1 SB294
2 160590-3
3 By Senator Reed
4 RFD: Health
5 First Read: 30-JAN-14

1 SB294

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4 ENROLLED, An Act,

5 To require hospitals to provide educational
6 information on pertussis to the parents prior to discharge of
7 a newborn child.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

9 Section 1. (a) During the postpartum period, before
10 discharging a newborn child, a hospital shall provide parents
11 with educational information on pertussis disease. The
12 information provided to parents shall contain the following
13 statement:

14 Pertussis, whooping cough, can cause serious illness
15 in infants, children, and adults and can even be
16 life-threatening, especially in infants. According to the
17 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the most
18 effective way to prevent pertussis is through vaccination of
19 both children and parents. For more information on protecting
20 your child by obtaining the pertussis vaccination please
21 contact your physician, county health department, or the
22 Alabama Department of Public Health.

23 (b) Nothing in this section shall require any
24 hospital to provide or pay for any vaccination against
25 pertussis.

1 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to
2 establish a standard of care for hospitals or physicians or
3 otherwise modify, amend, or supersede any provision of the
4 Alabama Medical Liability Act of 1987 or the Alabama Medical
5 Liability Act of 1996, or any amendment thereto, or any
6 judicial interpretation thereof.

7 (d) Physicians and hospitals, as hospitals are
8 defined in Section 22-21-20, Code of Alabama 1975, shall not
9 have legal liability or responsibility for claims resulting
10 from providing or failing to provide the pertussis information
11 required pursuant to subsection (a).

12 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
13 first day of the sixth month following its passage and
14 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SB294
Senate 20-FEB-14
I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed
the Senate, as amended.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Amended and passed 20-MAR-14

Senate concurred in House amendment 20-MAR-14

By: Senator Reed