

1 SB294
2 157814-3
3 By Senator Reed
4 RFD: Health
5 First Read: 30-JAN-14

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4 ENGROSSED

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7 A BILL
8 TO BE ENTITLED
9 AN ACT

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11 To require hospitals to provide educational
12 information developed and made available by the Department of
13 Public Health on pertussis to a parent prior to discharge of a
14 newborn infant.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

16 Section 1. (a) The Department of Public Health shall
17 develop educational information on pertussis disease and the
18 availability of a vaccine to protect against pertussis. This
19 educational material shall include, at a minimum, the most
20 current vaccine recommendations of the Centers for Disease
21 Control and Prevention for parents of newborn infants. The
22 educational information shall be regularly updated and made
23 available on the department's website in a form that can be
24 printed and provided to a parent of a newborn infant. During
25 the postpartum period, before discharging a newborn child, a
26 hospital shall provide the infant's parent with educational

1 information developed by the department and made available on
2 its website.

3 (b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to
4 require any hospital to provide or pay for any vaccination
5 against pertussis.

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

12 (d) Physicians and hospitals, as hospitals are
13 defined in Section 22-21-20, Code of Alabama 1975, shall be
14 immune from all civil and criminal liability for any claims
15 directly associated with information produced by the
16 Department of Public Health and disseminated pursuant to this
17 act.

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

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Senate

Read for the first time and referred to the Senate
committee on Health..... 30-JAN-14

Read for the second time and placed on the calen-
dar with 1 substitute and..... 06-FEB-14

Read for the third time and passed as amended 20-FEB-14

Yeas 28
Nays 0
Abstaining 1

Patrick Harris
Secretary