

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

FILED SENATE
Mar 27, 2013
S.B. 486
PRINCIPAL CLERK

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SENATE DRS35200-MG-86 (03/12)

Short Title: Pertussis Education & Awareness.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Tarte, Pate, and Hise (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT REQUIRING HOSPITALS TO PROVIDE PARENTS OF NEWBORNS WITH
3 EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT PERTUSSIS DISEASE AND AVAILABLE
4 VACCINE PROTECTIONS IN ORDER TO BETTER PROTECT NEWBORNS
5 AGAINST PERTUSSIS DISEASE.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** Article 5 of Chapter 131E of the General Statutes is amended by
8 adding a new section to read:

9 **"§ 131E-79.2. Educating parents of newborns regarding pertussis disease.**

10 (a) Each hospital licensed under this Article shall provide to the parents of newborns
11 delivered at the hospital free, medically accurate educational information about pertussis
12 disease and the availability of the tetanus-diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap) vaccine to protect
13 against pertussis disease. The hospitals shall provide this educational information to parents
14 during the postpartum period and prior to the mother's discharge from the hospital. As used in
15 this section, "postpartum period" means the period of time between the mother's admittance to
16 the hospital for delivery of the newborn child through the first few hours after childbirth.

17 (b) The educational information provided to parents pursuant to this section shall
18 include, at a minimum, the most current recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control
19 and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices regarding the use of
20 tetanus-toxoid-diphtheria-acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine to reduce the burden of pertussis in
21 infants.

22 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a hospital to provide or pay for
23 any vaccination against pertussis disease."

24 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2013.

