

3837

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

April 2, 2009

Introduced by Sen. DUANE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to patient discharge information concerning certain premature newborn infants

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section  
2 2803-s to read as follows:

3 S 2803-S. PATIENT DISCHARGE INFORMATION. 1. ANY HOSPITAL THAT PROVIDES  
4 BIRTHING SERVICES SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN, EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL CONTAINING  
5 INFORMATION ABOUT THE POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS, PROPER CARE AND SUPPORT  
6 ASSOCIATED WITH NEWBORN INFANTS WHO ARE BORN PREMATURE AT LESS THAN  
7 THIRTY-SEVEN WEEKS GESTATIONAL AGE. THE WRITTEN INFORMATION SHALL  
8 INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:

9 (A) THE UNIQUE HEALTH ISSUES AFFECTING INFANTS BORN PREMATURE, SUCH  
10 AS: INCREASED RISK OF DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS; NUTRITIONAL CHALLENGES;  
11 INFECTION; CHRONIC LUNG DISEASE (BRONCHOPULMONARY DYSPLASIA); VISION AND  
12 HEARING IMPAIRMENT; BREATHING PROBLEMS; FEEDING; MAINTAINING BODY  
13 TEMPERATURE; JAUNDICE; HYPERACTIVITY; INFANT MORTALITY AND LONG-TERM  
14 COMPLICATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH FINE MOTOR SKILLS, READING, WRITING, MATH-  
15 EMATICS AND SPEAKING;

16 (B) THE PROPER CARE NEEDS OF PREMATURE INFANTS, DEVELOPMENTAL SCREEN-  
17 INGS AND MONITORING AND HEALTHCARE SERVICES AVAILABLE TO PREMATURE  
18 INFANTS;

19 (C) INFECTIOUS DISEASE AWARENESS AND METHODS TO PREVENT OR MINIMIZE  
20 INFECTIONS COMMON TO PREMATURE INFANTS; AND

21 (D) COMMUNITY RESOURCES TO ASSIST PARENTS AND FAMILY MEMBERS WITH THE  
22 CARE AND SUPPORT OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

23 2. SUCH MATERIALS SHALL BE WRITTEN IN CLEAR LANGUAGE TO EDUCATE  
24 PARENTS OF PREMATURE INFANTS ACROSS A VARIETY OF SOCIOECONOMIC STATUSES  
25 AND SHALL BE UPDATED AT LEAST EVERY TWO YEARS.

26 S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after  
27 it shall have become a law.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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