Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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H.B. 465

130th General Assembly
(As Reported by H. Health and Aging)

Reps. Johnson, Wachtmann, Antonio, Barnes, Brown, Carney, Hill, R. Hagan, Hottinger, Schuring, Sears, Smith

BILL SUMMARY

- Designates the first week of July as "Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Awareness Week."

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Awareness Week

The bill designates the first week of July as "Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Awareness Week."[1]

Neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) occurs in newborn babies exposed to addictive drugs while in utero. When a pregnant woman takes addictive illegal or prescription drugs, these substances pass through the placenta to the baby. The baby may become addicted along with the pregnant woman. At birth, the newborn may still be dependent on the addictive drug. Because the newborn is no longer receiving the drug, withdrawal symptoms may occur. Symptoms can begin within one to three days after birth, but may take five to ten days to appear.[2] According to data from the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Ohio Department of Health, in 2011, the rate of NAS in Ohio was 88 per 10,000 live births.[3]

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[1] R.C. 5.22100.

[2] U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health, *Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome* (last visited March 20, 2014), available at <www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/007313.htm>.

[3] Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and Ohio Department of Health, *Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and Drug Use Among Pregnant Women in Ohio: 2004-2011* (last visited March 20, 2014), available at <www.healthy.ohio.gov/~/media/HealthyOhio/ASSETS/Files/injury%20prevention/NAS%20Report%20FINAL.ashx>.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	03-04-14
Reported, H. Health & Aging	03-19-14

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