



## 97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB4968

Introduced 2/3/2012, by Rep. Robyn Gabel

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Hospital Infant Feeding Act. Provides that every hospital that provides birthing services must adopt an infant feeding policy that promotes breastfeeding. Requires a hospital to routinely communicate the infant feeding policy to staff in the hospital's obstetric and neonatal areas; authorizes posting of the policy on the hospital's Internet or Intranet web site or on the Internet or Intranet web site of the health system of which the hospital is a part. Requires that the policy apply to all mother-infant couplets in the hospital's obstetric and neonatal areas. Effective January 1, 2013.

LRB097 18751 DRJ 65112 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES  
ACT MAY REQUIRE  
REIMBURSEMENT

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning health.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Hospital Infant Feeding Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. In this Act:

7 "Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative" means the voluntary  
8 program sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO) and  
9 the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) that recognizes  
10 hospitals that meet certain evaluation criteria regarding the  
11 promotion of breastfeeding.

12 "Department" means the Department of Public Health.

13 "Hospital" has the meaning ascribed to that term in the  
14 Hospital Licensing Act.

15 Section 10. Infant feeding policy required.

16 (a) Every hospital that provides birthing services must  
17 adopt an infant feeding policy that promotes breastfeeding. In  
18 developing the policy, a hospital shall consider guidance  
19 provided by the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative.

20 (b) An infant feeding policy adopted under this Section may  
21 include guidance on the use of formula (i) for supplementation,  
22 (ii) if preferred by the mother, or (iii) when exclusive

1 breastfeeding is contraindicated for the mother or for the  
2 infant.

3 Section 15. Communication of policy. A hospital shall  
4 routinely communicate the infant feeding policy to staff in the  
5 hospital's obstetric and neonatal areas, beginning with  
6 hospital staff orientation. The hospital shall also ensure that  
7 the policy is posted (i) in a conspicuous place in the  
8 hospital's obstetric or neonatal area or (ii) on the hospital's  
9 Internet or Intranet web site or on the Internet or Intranet  
10 web site of the health system of which the hospital is a part.  
11 The hospital shall make copies of the policy available to the  
12 Department upon request.

13 Section 20. Application of policy. A hospital's infant  
14 feeding policy adopted under this Act must apply to all  
15 mother-infant couplets in the hospital's obstetric and  
16 neonatal areas.

17 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January  
18 1, 2013.