

**26:2H-12.6a**  
**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST**  
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**LAWS OF:** 2010                    **CHAPTER:** 67

**NJSA:** 26:2H-12.6a (Requires DCF to provide information on home visitation resources and shaken baby syndrome to parents of newborn infants)

**BILL NO:** A1654 (Substituted for S573)

**SPONSOR(S)** Greenwald and Others

**DATE INTRODUCED:** January 12, 2010

**COMMITTEE:**                    **ASSEMBLY:** Health and Senior Services

**SENATE:** ---

**AMENDED DURING PASSAGE:**                    Yes

**DATE OF PASSAGE:**                    **ASSEMBLY:** May 20, 2010

**SENATE:** June 21, 2010

**DATE OF APPROVAL:** September 9, 2010

**FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:**

**FINAL TEXT OF BILL** (First reprint enacted)

**A1654**

**SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:** (Begins on page 2 of introduced bill)                    Yes

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:**                    **ASSEMBLY:** Yes

**SENATE:** No

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at [www.njleg.state.nj.us](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us))

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:**                    No

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:**                    No

**S573**

**SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:** (Begins on page 2 of introduced bill)                    Yes

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT:**                    **ASSEMBLY:** No

**SENATE:** Yes

**FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:**                    Yes

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:**                    No

(continued)

**VETO MESSAGE:** No

**GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:** No

**FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

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**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:** No

LAW/KR

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 1654**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**214th LEGISLATURE**

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2010 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD**

**District 6 (Camden)**

**Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER**

**District 28 (Essex)**

**Assemblywoman L. GRACE SPENCER**

**District 29 (Essex and Union)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

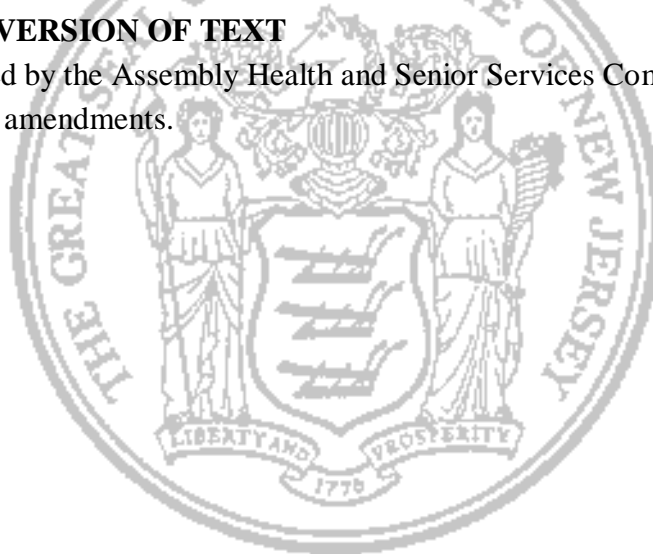
**Assemblywoman Angelini, Assemblymen Diegnan, Conners, Chivukula,  
Assemblywoman Quijano, Assemblyman Coughlin, Assemblywomen  
Greenstein, Jasey, Senators Beach, Sweeney and Allen**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires DCF to provide information on home visitation resources and shaken baby syndrome to parents of newborn infants.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee on May 6, 2010, with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/22/2010)**

1 AN ACT concerning <sup>1</sup>**[shaken baby syndrome]** information on child  
2 abuse and neglect<sup>1</sup> and amending P.L.1998, c.136.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6  
7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1998, c.136 (C.26:2H-12.6a) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 1. a. The Department of Children and Families, in consultation  
10 with the Department of Health and Senior Services, shall prepare a  
11 **[pamphlet]** resource guide in both English and Spanish which  
12 provides information on child abuse and neglect to all parents of  
13 newborn infants born in this State. The **[pamphlet]** resource guide  
14 shall be distributed to each parent present during the infant's birth,  
15 by the personnel at a hospital or birthing facility<sup>1</sup>**[**. A health care  
16 professional, designated by the hospital or birthing facility, shall  
17 discuss the information contained in the resource guide with the  
18 parents of a newborn infant],<sup>1</sup> **[**at the time of] prior to the mother's  
19 discharge, as part of the hospital or birthing facility's discharge  
20 procedures.

21 b. The **[pamphlet]** resource guide shall include information on  
22 the signs of child abuse and neglect <sup>1</sup>**[**, including shaken baby  
23 syndrome]<sup>1</sup>, the services provided by the State which help in  
24 preventing child abuse and neglect **[and]**, <sup>1</sup>including the  
25 availability of home visitation resources,<sup>1</sup> the legal ramifications of  
26 abusing or neglecting a child<sup>1</sup>, <sup>1</sup>and tips on child safety.

27 c. The department shall distribute the **[pamphlet]** resource  
28 guide, at no charge, to all the hospitals and birthing facilities in the  
29 State. The department shall update the **[pamphlet]** resource guide  
30 as necessary, and shall make additional copies of the **[pamphlet]**  
31 resource guide available to health care providers upon request.

32 <sup>1</sup>d. In addition to the resource guide prepared pursuant to  
33 subsection a. of this section, the department, in consultation with  
34 the Department of Health and Senior Services, shall prepare a  
35 pamphlet in both English and Spanish that includes information on  
36 the prevention of shaken baby syndrome and detailed suggestions  
37 for how to cope with a crying baby. The pamphlet shall be  
38 distributed to each parent present during the infant's birth, by the  
39 personnel at a hospital or birthing facility, prior to the mother's  
40 discharge, as part of the hospital or birthing facility's discharge  
41 procedures. The department shall: distribute the pamphlet, at no  
42 charge, to all hospitals and birthing facilities in the State; update the  
43 pamphlet as necessary; and make additional copies of the pamphlet

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly AHE committee amendments adopted May 6, 2010.

- 1 available to health care providers upon request.<sup>1</sup>
- 2 (cf: P.L.2006, c.47, s.109)
- 3
- 4 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 1654

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 214th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2010 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD**

**District 6 (Camden)**

**Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER**

**District 28 (Essex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman Angelini, Assemblymen Diegnan, Conners, Chivukula,  
Assemblywoman Quijano and Assemblyman Coughlin**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires DCF to provide information on shaken baby syndrome to parents of newborn infants.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/7/2010)**

A1654 GREENWALD, TUCKER

2

1 AN ACT concerning shaken baby syndrome and amending P.L.1998,  
2 c.136.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1998, c.136 (C.26:2H-12.6a) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 1. a. The Department of Children and Families, in consultation  
10 with the Department of Health and Senior Services, shall prepare a  
11 **[pamphlet] resource guide in both English and Spanish** which  
12 provides information on child abuse and neglect to all parents of  
13 newborn infants born in this State. The **[pamphlet] resource guide**  
14 shall be distributed to each parent present during the infant's birth,  
15 by the personnel at a hospital or birthing facility. A health care  
16 professional, designated by the hospital or birthing facility, shall  
17 discuss the information contained in the resource guide with the  
18 parents of a newborn infant [at the time of] prior to the mother's  
19 discharge, as part of the hospital or birthing facility's discharge  
20 procedures.

21 b. The **[pamphlet] resource guide** shall include information on  
22 the signs of child abuse and neglect, including shaken baby  
23 syndrome, the services provided by the State which help in  
24 preventing child abuse and neglect **[and]**, the legal ramifications of  
25 abusing or neglecting a child and tips on child safety.

26 c. The department shall distribute the **[pamphlet] resource**  
27 guide, at no charge, to all the hospitals and birthing facilities in the  
28 State. The department shall update the **[pamphlet] resource guide**  
29 as necessary, and shall make additional copies of the **[pamphlet]**  
30 resource guide available to health care providers upon request.

31 (cf: P.L.2006, c.47, s.109)

32

33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

34

35

36

STATEMENT

37

38 This bill requires the Department of Children and Families  
39 (DCF) to include information about shaken baby syndrome in the  
40 resource guide concerning child abuse that is currently provided to  
41 parents of newborns pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1998, c.136  
42 (C.26:2H-12.6a). The bill also requires a health care professional,  
43 designated by the hospital or birthing facility, to discuss the  
44 information contained in the resource guide with the parents of a

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

**A1654 GREENWALD, TUCKER**

3

1 newborn, as part of the hospital or birthing facility's discharge  
2 procedures.

3       In addition to requiring DCF to include information about shaken  
4 baby syndrome, the bill amends the statute to replace references to  
5 "pamphlet" with "resource guide" and to require the resource guide  
6 to be prepared in both English and Spanish.



# ASSEMBLY HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **ASSEMBLY, No. 1654**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MAY 6, 2010

The Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 1654.

As amended by the committee, this bill requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to provide certain information relating to child abuse and neglect to parents of newborn infants.

The bill provides specifically as follows:

- DCF is to include information in both English and Spanish about the availability of home visitation resources and tips on child safety in the resource guide concerning child abuse and neglect that hospitals and birthing facilities currently provide to parents of newborn infants pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1998, c.136 (C.26:2H-12.6a). (DCF oversees the home visitation program, which is designed to improve the physical and emotional health and well-being of infants, children, and families through community-based education and support to families in their homes.)
- The term, "pamphlet" is replaced by the term, "resource guide" in order to reflect the terminology used by DCF.
- In addition to the resource guide, DCF, in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, is to prepare a pamphlet in both English and Spanish that includes information on the prevention of shaken baby syndrome and detailed suggestions for how to cope with a crying baby.
- The pamphlet is to be distributed to each parent present during the infant's birth, by the personnel at a hospital or birthing facility, prior to the mother's discharge, as part of the hospital or birthing facility's discharge procedures.
- DCF is to distribute the pamphlet to all hospitals and birthing facilities in the State at no charge, update it as necessary, and make additional copies available to health care providers upon request.

As reported by the committee, this bill is similar to Senate Bill No. 573 (1R) (Beach/Sweeney), which is pending before the Senate.

The bill is also similar to Assembly Bill No. 725 (1R) of 2008 (Greenwald/Fisher/Munoz/Tucker), which was reported by this committee during the prior session, passed the General Assembly by a

vote of 78-0-0 on February 5, 2009, and was pending in the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee at the conclusion of the 213th Legislature.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2010-2011 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amendments to the bill:

- delete the requirement that a health care professional, designated by the hospital or birthing facility, discuss the information contained in the resource guide with the newborn infant's parents prior to the mother's discharge, as part of the hospital or birthing facility's discharge procedures;
- require that the resource guide include information about the availability of home visitation resources; and
- require DCF to prepare, and hospitals and birthing facilities to distribute to parents of newborn infants, a pamphlet that includes information on the prevention of shaken baby syndrome and detailed suggestions for how to cope with a crying baby.

# SENATE, No. 573

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 214th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2010 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JAMES BEACH**

**District 6 (Camden)**

**Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY**

**District 3 (Salem, Cumberland and Gloucester)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires DCF to provide information on shaken baby syndrome to parents of newborn infants.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



1 AN ACT concerning shaken baby syndrome and amending P.L.1998,  
2 c.136.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1998, c.136 (C.26:2H-12.6a) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 1. a. The Department of Children and Families, in consultation  
10 with the Department of Health and Senior Services, shall prepare a  
11 **【pamphlet】** resource guide in both English and Spanish which  
12 provides information on child abuse and neglect to all parents of  
13 newborn infants born in this State. The **【pamphlet】** resource guide  
14 shall be distributed to each parent present during the infant's birth,  
15 by the personnel at a hospital or birthing facility. A health care  
16 professional, designated by the hospital or birthing facility, shall  
17 discuss the information contained in the resource guide with the  
18 parents of a newborn infant **【at the time of】** prior to the mother's  
19 discharge, as part of the hospital or birthing facility's discharge  
20 procedures.

21 b. The **【pamphlet】** resource guide shall include information on  
22 the signs of child abuse and neglect, including shaken baby  
23 syndrome, the services provided by the State which help in  
24 preventing child abuse and neglect **【and】**, the legal ramifications of  
25 abusing or neglecting a child and tips on child safety.

26 c. The department shall distribute the **【pamphlet】** resource  
27 guide, at no charge, to all the hospitals and birthing facilities in the  
28 State. The department shall update the **【pamphlet】** resource guide  
29 as necessary, and shall make additional copies of the **【pamphlet】**  
30 resource guide available to health care providers upon request.

31 (cf: P.L.2006, c.47, s.109)

32

33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

34

35

36

#### STATEMENT

37

38 This bill requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to  
39 include information about shaken baby syndrome in the resource  
40 guide in both English and Spanish concerning child abuse that is  
41 currently provided to parents of newborns pursuant to pursuant to  
42 section 1 of P.L.1998, c.136 (C.26:2H-12.6a). The bill also  
43 requires a health care professional, designated by the hospital or  
44 birthing facility, to discuss the information contained in the

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

**S573 BEACH, SWEENEY**

3

1 resource guide with the parents of a newborn, as part of the hospital  
2 or birthing facility's discharge procedures.

3 In addition to requiring DHS to include information about  
4 shaken baby syndrome, the bill amends the statute to replace  
5 references to "pamphlet" with "resource guide," to reflect language  
6 now used by DHS.

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR  
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 573**

with committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MARCH 18, 2010

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably and with amendments Senate Bill No. 573.

As amended by the committee, this bill requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to include information in both English and Spanish about shaken baby syndrome and the availability of home visitation resources in the resource guide concerning child abuse that is currently provided to parents of newborns pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1998, c.136 (C.26:2H-12.6a). DCF oversees the home visitation program, which is designed to improve the physical and emotional health and well-being of infants, children, and families through community-based education and support to families in their homes.

The bill also requires that a health care professional designated by the hospital or birthing facility discuss the information contained in the resource guide with the newborn's parents, as part of the hospital or birthing facility's discharge procedures.

In addition, the term "pamphlet" is replaced with the term "resource guide," to reflect language now used by the department.

The committee amended the bill to add the requirement that information about available home visitation resources be provided as well.

As amended, this bill is similar to Assembly No. 1654 (Greenwald/Tucker), which is pending in the Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2010-2011 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

STATEMENT TO  
[First Reprint]  
**SENATE, No. 573**

with Senate Floor Amendments  
(Proposed by Senator BEACH)

ADOPTED: MAY 20, 2010

The amendments delete the provisions in the bill requiring inclusion of information about shaken baby syndrome in the resource guide (concerning child abuse and neglect) given to parents of newborn children at the hospital or birthing facility, and provide, instead, that the Department of Children and Families, in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, shall prepare a pamphlet in both English and Spanish that includes information on the prevention of shaken baby syndrome and detailed suggestions for how to cope with a crying baby.

The pamphlet shall be distributed to each parent present during the infant's birth, by the personnel at a hospital or birthing facility, prior to the mother's discharge, as part of the hospital or birthing facility's discharge procedures. The department shall: distribute the pamphlet, at no charge, to all hospitals and birthing facilities in the State; update the pamphlet as necessary; and make additional copies of the pamphlet available to health care providers upon request.

The amendments make the bill identical to Assembly Bill No. 1654 (1R).