



540308

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/13/2013	.	
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The Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs (Hays) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 383.311, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

383.311 Education and orientation for birth center clients and their families.—

(2) The clients shall be prepared for childbirth and childbearing by education in:

(f) The care of the newborn to include safe sleep practices and the possible causes of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death.



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13 Section 2. Paragraph (e) of subsection (3) of section  
14 383.318, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

15 383.318 Postpartum care for birth center clients and  
16 infants.—

17 (3) Postpartum evaluation and followup care shall be  
18 provided, which shall include:

19 (e) Instruction in child care, including immunization, and  
20 breastfeeding, safe sleep practices, and possible causes of  
21 Sudden Unexpected Infant Death.

22 Section 3. Section 383.3362, Florida Statutes, is amended  
23 to read:

24 383.3362 Sudden Unexpected Infant Death Syndrome.—

25 (1) FINDINGS AND INTENT.—The Legislature recognizes that  
26 more than 4,500 infants in the United States die suddenly and  
27 unexpectedly of no immediate or obvious cause. According to  
28 statistics from the Department of Health, more than 200 infants  
29 in this state experienced Sudden Unexpected Infant Death in 2010  
30 ~~sudden Infant death Syndrome, or SIDS, is a leading cause of~~  
31 ~~death among children under the age of 1 year, both nationally~~  
32 ~~and in this state.~~ The Legislature further recognizes that first  
33 responders to emergency calls relating to such a death need  
34 access to special training to better enable them to recognize  
35 that such deaths may result from natural and accidental causes  
36 or may be caused ~~distinguish SIDS from death caused by criminal~~  
37 acts and to appropriately interact with the deceased infant's  
38 parents or caretakers. At the same time, the Legislature,  
39 recognizing that the primary focus of first responders is to  
40 carry out their assigned duties, intends to increase the  
41 awareness of the possible causes of Sudden Unexpected Infant



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42 ~~Death SIDS by first responders,~~ but in no way expand or take  
43 away from their duties. Further, the Legislature recognizes the  
44 importance of a multidisciplinary investigation and standardized  
45 investigative protocols in cases of Sudden Unexpected Infant  
46 Death standard protocol for review of SIDS deaths by medical  
47 examiners and the importance of appropriate followup in cases of  
48 certified or suspected SIDS deaths. Finally, the Legislature  
49 finds that it is desirable to analyze existing data, and to  
50 conduct further research on, the possible causes of Sudden  
51 Unexpected Infant Death SIDS and on how to reduce its incidence  
52 ~~lower the number of sudden infant deaths.~~

53 (2) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term "Sudden  
54 Unexpected Infant Death Syndrome," or "SUID," "SIDS," means the  
55 sudden unexpected death of an infant under 1 year of age while  
56 in apparent good health whose death may have been a result of  
57 natural or unnatural causes ~~which remains unexplained after a~~  
58 ~~complete autopsy, death-scene investigation, and review of the~~  
59 ~~case history. The term includes only those deaths for which,~~  
60 ~~currently, there is no known cause or cure.~~

61 (3) TRAINING.—

62 (a) The Legislature finds that an emergency medical  
63 technician, a paramedic, a firefighter, or a law enforcement  
64 officer is likely to be the first responder to a request for  
65 assistance which is made immediately after the sudden unexpected  
66 death of an infant. The Legislature further finds that these  
67 first responders should be trained in appropriate responses to  
68 sudden infant death.

69 (b) ~~After January 1, 1995,~~ The basic training programs  
70 required for certification as an emergency medical technician, a



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71 paramedic, a firefighter, or a law enforcement officer as  
72 defined in s. 943.10, other than a correctional officer or a  
73 correctional probation officer, must include curriculum that  
74 contains instruction on SUID ~~Sudden Infant Death Syndrome~~.

75 (c) The Department of Health, in consultation with the  
76 Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council, the Firefighters  
77 Employment, Standards, and Training Council, the child  
78 protection teams established in the Division of Children's  
79 Medical Services, and the Criminal Justice Standards and  
80 Training Commission, shall develop and adopt, by rule,  
81 curriculum that is as part of the Centers for Disease Control  
82 SUID Initiative which must ~~that, at a minimum, includes training~~  
83 ~~in the nature of SIDS, standard procedures to be followed by law~~  
84 ~~enforcement agencies in investigating cases involving sudden~~  
85 ~~deaths of infants, and training in responding appropriately to~~  
86 ~~the parents or caretakers who have requested assistance.~~

87 (4) AUTOPSIES.—

88 (a) The death of any infant younger than 1 year of age who  
89 dies suddenly and unexpectedly while in apparent good health  
90 falls under the jurisdiction of the medical examiner as provided  
91 in s. 406.11 ~~The medical examiner must perform an autopsy upon~~  
92 ~~any infant under the age of 1 year who is suspected to have died~~  
93 ~~of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. The autopsy must be performed~~  
94 ~~within 24 hours after the death, or as soon thereafter as is~~  
95 ~~feasible. When the medical examiner's findings are consistent~~  
96 ~~with the definition of sudden infant death syndrome in~~  
97 ~~subsection (2), the medical examiner must state on the death~~  
98 ~~certificate that sudden infant death syndrome was the cause of~~  
99 ~~death.~~



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100           (b) The Medical Examiners Commission shall provide for the  
101 development and implementation of ~~develop and implement~~ a  
102 protocol for the medicolegal investigation of SUID ~~dealing with~~  
103 ~~suspected sudden infant death syndrome. The protocol must be~~  
104 ~~followed by all medical examiners when conducting the autopsies~~  
105 ~~required under this subsection.~~ The protocol may include  
106 requirements and standards for scene investigations,  
107 requirements for specific data, criteria for any specific tissue  
108 sampling, and any other requirements that are deemed  
109 ~~ascertaining cause of death based on the autopsy, criteria for~~  
110 ~~any specific tissue sampling, and any other requirements that~~  
111 ~~the commission considers necessary.~~

112           (c) A medical examiner is not liable for damages in a civil  
113 action for any act or omission done in compliance with this  
114 subsection.

115           ~~(d) An autopsy must be performed under the authority of a~~  
116 ~~medical examiner under s. 406.11.~~

117           (5) DEPARTMENT DUTIES RELATING TO SUDDEN UNEXPECTED INFANT  
118 DEATH (SUID) ~~SYNDROME (SIDS).~~—The Department of Health, in  
119 consultation with the child protection teams established in the  
120 Division of Children’s Medical Services, shall:

121           (a) Collaborate with other agencies in the development and  
122 presentation of the SUID ~~Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)~~  
123 training programs for first responders, including those for  
124 emergency medical technicians and paramedics, firefighters, and  
125 law enforcement officers.

126           (b) Maintain a database of statistics on reported SUID ~~SIDS~~  
127 deaths, and analyze the data as funds allow.

128           (c) Serve as liaison and closely coordinate activities with



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129 the Florida SIDS Alliance, ~~including the services related to the~~  
130 ~~SIDS hotline.~~

131 (d) Maintain a library reference list and materials about  
132 SUID ~~SIDS~~ for public dissemination.

133 (e) Provide professional support to field staff.

134 (f) Coordinate the activities of and promote a link between  
135 the fetal and infant mortality review committees of the local  
136 healthy start coalitions, the Florida ~~leaa~~ SIDS Alliance, and  
137 other related support groups.

138 Section 4. Section 395.1053, Florida Statutes, is created  
139 to read:

140 395.1053 Postpartum education.—A hospital that provides  
141 birthing services shall incorporate information on safe sleep  
142 practices and the possible causes of Sudden Unexpected Infant  
143 Death into the hospital's postpartum instruction on the care of  
144 newborns.

145 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.

146  
147 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

148 And the title is amended as follows:

149 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
150 and insert:

151 A bill to be entitled  
152 An act relating to infant death; amending s. 383.311,  
153 F.S.; revising the education and orientation  
154 requirements for birth centers and their families to  
155 incorporate safe sleep practices and causes of Sudden  
156 Unexpected Infant Death; amending s. 383.318, F.S.;  
157 revising the postpartum care for birth center clients



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158 and infants to incorporate instruction on safe sleep  
159 practices and causes of Sudden Unexpected Infant  
160 Death; amending s. 383.3362, F.S.; revising  
161 legislative findings and intent with respect to the  
162 sudden unexpected death of an infant under a specified  
163 age; defining the term "Sudden Unexpected Infant  
164 Death"; revising provisions relating to training  
165 requirements for first responders; revising  
166 requirements relating to autopsies performed by  
167 medical examiners; requiring the Medical Examiners  
168 Commission to provide for the development and  
169 implementation of a protocol for the medicolegal  
170 investigation of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death;  
171 creating s. 395.1053, F.S.; requiring a hospital that  
172 provides birthing services to incorporate information  
173 on safe sleep practices and the possible causes of  
174 sudden unexpected infant death into the hospital's  
175 postpartum instruction on the care of newborns;  
176 providing an effective date.