

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Authors:** Dean

**Subject:** Perinatal Hospice - Woman's Right To Know Act Modifications

**Analyst:** Janelle Taylor, 651-296-5808

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### Overview

This bill requires a woman seeking an abortion of a fetus with an anomaly incompatible with life, to be informed of available perinatal hospice services and offered these services as an alternative to abortion and provides an exemption to certain provisions of the Woman's Right to Know Act if the woman declines perinatal hospice.

#### Section

- 1 Fetal anomaly incompatible with life.** Amends § 145.4241 by adding subd. 3a. Defines "fetal anomaly incompatible with life," for the purposes of the Woman's Right to Know Act, as an untreatable fetal anomaly diagnosed before birth that will, with reasonable certainty, result in death of the unborn child within three months.
- 2 Perinatal hospice.** Amends § 145.4241 by adding subd. 4a. Defines "perinatal hospice," for the purposes of the Woman's Right to Know Act, as comprehensive support to a female and her family that includes support from the time of diagnosis through the time of birth and death of the infant and through the postpartum period. The care may include maternal-fetal medical specialists, obstetricians, neonatologists, anesthesia specialists, clergy, social workers, and specialty nurses.
- 3 Informed consent.** Amends § 145.4242. Exempts a woman, in cases where her fetus has an anomaly incompatible with life and where she has declined perinatal hospice care, from the informed consent provisions in clause (2), which requires women to be informed: that MA assistance may be available; fathers are liable to assist in the support of children; and that she has the right to review materials developed by the commissioner of health that include

**Section**

information on support services available and the gestational development of the fetus.  
Requires a woman seeking an abortion in cases where the fetus has an anomaly incompatible with life to be informed of available perinatal hospice services and offered the care as an alternative to abortion.