

HOUSE BILL ANALYSIS

HB 1864

Title: *An act relating to prevention and early intervention.*

Brief Description: *Regarding infants who test positive at birth for drugs or alcohol.*

Sponsors: *Representatives Cooke, Dickerson, Boldt and McDonald.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

Meeting Date: *February 20, 1997.*

Bill Analysis Prepared by: *David Knutson (786-7146).*

Background: *Administrators of hospitals and similar institutions and physicians are authorized to detain children if they believe the child would be in imminent danger if returned to the care and custody of the parent, guardian, custodian, or other person legally responsible for the child.*

Summary of Bill: *If a baby is born addicted to alcohol or drugs, the administrator of a hospital or similar institution and physicians shall detain the baby. The baby may be held at a hospital, pediatric interim care facility, or similar program. Child protective services will refer mothers of babies detained to appropriate treatment programs. Babies needing drug withdrawal will be supervised by licensed health care professionals.*

Appropriation: *None.*

Fiscal Note: *Requested on February 12, 1997.*

Effective Date: *July 1, 1997.*