Minnesota Senate Votes Down Parent Consent Requirements for MN DNA Warehouse and State Genetic Research and Destruction of Illegally Retained DNA

April 1, 2008

SF 3138 (Lynch) (and HF 3438 - Thissen) exempts from written informed consent requirements of the 2006 MN Genetic Privacy law the following: government genetic testing of newborn citizens, government retention of newborn DNA, and genetic research using DNA obtained at birth.

Stats:
780,000 children already in the State's "DNA Warehouse" (adding 73,000 children each year)
42,210 children have already been subjected to genetic research and analysis without parent consent.

INFORMED PARENT CONSENT AMENDMENT - Add parent consent requirements for government retention of newborn DNA, and government genetic research using newborn DNA (offered by Sen. Betsy Wergin)

VOTED NO - opposed parent consent
GOP - 0

ABSTAIN (refused to vote) - Dahle (D), Erickson Ropes (D), Koering (R), Olseen (D), Skogen (D), Wiger (D)

VOTED YES - supported parent consent
DFL - Sheran, Sparks, Vickerman
GOP - Day, Dille, Fischbach, Frederickson, Gerlach, Gimse, Ingebrigtsen, Debbie Johnson, Jungbauer, Koch, Limmer, Michel, Gen Olson, Orman, Pariseau, Robling Rosen, Senjem, Wergin

ABSENT - Chaudhary (D)(?? - was excused for first 1.5 hours of session), Hann (R), Murphy(D), Vandeveer (R)

DESTROY ILLEGALLY TAKEN DNA AMENDMENT - require destruction of all blood samples that have been illegally retained since the 2006 genetic privacy law went into effect. (offered by Sen. Betsy Wergin)

VOTED NO - opposed destruction
GOP - 0

ABSTAIN (refused to vote) - Dahle (D), Erickson Ropes (D), Koering (R), Marty (D), Olseen (D), Robling (R), Rosen (R), Sparks (D), Wiger (D)

VOTED YES - supported destruction
DFL - Vickerman
GOP - Day, Fischbach, Frederickson, Gerlach, Gimse, Ingebrigtsen, Debbie Johnson, Jungbauer, Koch, Limmer, Michel, Gen Olson, Orman, Pariseau, Senjem, Wergin

ABSENT - Hann (R), Murphy(D), Vandeveer (R)

FINAL VOTE ON SENATE FILE 3138 – 46 – 19 (April 3, 2008)

YES (Exempt newborn genetic testing, DNA warehouse/research from informed consent requirements) – Anderson, Bakk, Berglin, Betzold, Bonoff, Carlson, Chaudhary, Clark, Cohen, Dibble, Dille (R), Doll, Erickson Ropes, Foley, Higgins, Koering (R), Kubly, Langseth, Larson, Latz, Lourey, Lynch, Marty, Metzen, Moua, Murphy, Olseen, Mary Olson, Pogemiller, Prettner Solon, Rest, Rosen (R), Rummel, Saltzman, Saxhaug, Scheid, Sheran, Sieben, Skoe, Stumpf, Tomassoni, Torres Ray, Vickerman, Wiger

NO (Oppose attempt to remove parent consent requirements) – Dahle (D), Day, Fischbach, Frederickson, Gerlach, Gimse, Hann, Ingebrigtsen, Johnson, Jungbauer, Koch, Limmer, Michel, Gen Olson, Pariseau, Robling, Senjem, Vandeveer, Wergin.

ABSENT/ABSTAIN - Orman (R), Pappas (D)