

May 15, 2008 2008

The "DNA Warehouse" bill passed the MN House and the MN Senate and is on its way to the Governor. The vote came out of the blue this afternoon. There wasn't a published version of the bill for the public. And the conference committee hearing hadn't even been published.

The Commissioner of Health Dr. Sanne Magnan came to the State Capitol and seemed to spend most of her time trying to convince Republicans to vote for the bill. CCHC tried to talk to these legislators afterwards.

There were 7–8 lobbyists from the Health Department, the March of Dimes, and others gathering around each legislator. On the House floor, Reps. Tom Emmer and Mark Olson said all the right things during the debate. They accurately said what the bill would do to current informed consent rights. Rep. Paul Thissen, the House author, even admitted that informed consent was being eliminated. Yet the bill passed.

The Senate passed the bill 51 – 12.
The House passed the bill 103 – 29.

THE VOTES

Voted RED – to Protect Parent, Privacy and DNA Property Rights in Law:

The following members VOTED TO PROTECT parent rights, privacy rights, DNA property rights, and constitutional rights. The following voted to KEEP informed written parent consent in law for the long-term (life-long) government storage, use and sharing of newborn citizen DNA:

Senate (Republicans with one exception):

Sens. Fischbach, Gerlach, Gimse, Hann, Jungbauer, Koch, Kubly(D), Limmer, Michel, Gen Olson, Ortman, Vandever.

House (All Republicans):

Reps. Beard, Brod, Buesgens, Cornish, Dean, Dettmer, Drazkowski, Eastlund, Emmer, Erickson, Finstad, Garofalo, Gunther, Hackbarth, Heidgerken, Hoppe, Howes, Kohls, Olson, Ozment, Peppin, Seifert, Severson, Shimanski, Simpson, Urdahl, Wardlow, Westrom, Zellers

Voted GREEN – to Eliminate Parent, Privacy, and DNA Property Rights from Law:

The following legislators voted to strip out of current law the requirement that government get the parent's written informed consent for storage, use and sharing (dissemination) of newborn citizen DNA to researchers and others.

Senate:

Sens. Anderson, Bakk, Berglin, Betzold, Bonoff, Carlson, Clark, Cohen, Dahle, Day(R), Dibble, Dille(R), Doll, Erickson Ropes, Foley, Higgins, Ingebrigtsen(R), Johnson(R), Langseth, Latz, Lourey, Lynch (AUTHOR), Marty, Metzen, Moua, Murphy, Olseen, Mary Olson, Pappas, Pariseau(R), Pogemiller, Prettner Solon, Rest, Robling(R), Rosen(R), Rummel, Saltzman, Saxhaug, Scheid, Senjem(R), Sheran, Sieben, Skoe, Skogen, Sparks, Stumpf, Tomassoni, Torres Ray, Vickerman, Wergin(R), Wiger.

House:

Reps. Abeler (R), Sarah Anderson(R), Anzelc, Atkins, Benson, Berns, Bigham, Bly, Brown, Brynaert, Bunn, Carlson, Clark, Davnie, DeLaForest (R), Demmer (R), Dill, Dittrich, Dominguez, Doty, Eken, Erhardt (R), Faust, Fritz, Gardner, Greiling, Hamilton (R), Hansen, Hausman, Haws, Hilstrom, Hilty, Holberg (R), Hornstein, Hortman, Hosch, Huntley, Jaros, Johnson, Juhnke, Kahn, Kalin, Knuth, Koenen, Kranz, Laine, Lanning(R), Lenczewski, Lesch, Liebling, Lieder, Lillie, Loeffler, Madore, Magnus(R), Mahoney, Mariani, Marquart, Masin, McFarlane(R), McNamara(R), Moe, Morgan, Morrow, Mullery, Erin Murphy, Mary Murphy, Nelson, Nornes(R), Norton, Olin, Otremba, Paulsen(R), Paymar, Pelowski, Peterson,A, Peterson, N, Peterson, S, Poppe, Rukavina, Ruth(R), Ruud, Sailer, Scalze, Sertich, Simon, Slawik, Slocum, Smith(R), Solberg, Swails, Thao, Thissen (AUTHOR), Tillberry, Tingelstad(R), Tschumper, Wagenius, Walker, Ward, Welti, Winkler, Wollschlager, Speaker Kelliher.

Did not vote (absent/abstain):

Senate: Sens. Chaudhary(D), Frederickson(R), Koering(R), and Larson(D)

House: Reps. Bruce Anderson (R), Gottwalt (R)