

## The Federal Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act of 1996

The Federal Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act of 1996 (NMHPA) relates to the amount of time a mother and newborn child can spend in the hospital in connection with the birth of a child. Under NMHPA, if a group health plan provides health coverage for hospital stays in connection with the birth of a child, this coverage must be provided for a minimum period of time. For example, NMHPA provides that coverage for a hospital stay following a normal vaginal delivery may generally not be limited to less than 48 hours for both the mother and newborn child. Health coverage for a hospital stay in connection with childbirth following a cesarean section may generally not be limited to less than 96 hours for both the mother and newborn child. The City of Portland's health plans are in compliance with NMHPA.