

1 State of Arkansas  
2 80th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 1995  
4 By: Senator Snyder

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 75

## For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE ANNOTATED §§ 20-15-302,  
20-15-304 AND 23-79-129 TO REQUIRE THE TESTING OF NEWBORN  
INFANTS FOR GALACTOSEMIA; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

## Subtitle

"TO REQUIRE THE TESTING OF NEWBORN  
INFANTS FOR GALACTOSEMIA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Annotated § 20-15-302 is amended to read as follows:

"20-15-302. Testing of newborns.

(a) All newborn infants shall be tested for phenylketonuria, hypothyroidism and galactosemia. In addition, all non-caucasian newborn infants shall be tested for sickle-cell anemia, by such procedures and in such manner as prescribed by the Department of Health.

(b) All positive test results shall be sent immediately to the Department of Health."

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Annotated 23-79-129(a) is amended to read as follows:

"(a) Every disability insurance policy, contract, certificate, or health care plan sold, delivered, issued, or offered for sale, issue, or delivery in this state, other than coverage limited to expenses from accidents or specified diseases, whether an individual or group policy, contract, certificate, or plan, which covers the insured and members of the insured's family, shall include coverage for newborn infant children by the

1 insured from the moment of birth. The coverage of newborn children shall be  
2 the same as is provided for other members of the insured's family and shall  
3 include coverage for illness, injury, congenital defects, premature birth,  
4 and tests for hypothyroidism, phenylketonuria and galactosemia, and, in the  
5 case of non-Caucasian newborn infants, tests for sickle-cell anemia, as well  
6 as any testing of newborn infants hereafter mandated by law, and shall also  
7 include coverage to pay for routine nursery care and pediatric charges for a  
8 well newborn child for up to five (5) full days in a hospital nursery or  
9 until the mother is discharged from the hospital following the birth of the  
10 child, whichever is the lesser period of time."

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12 SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent  
13 nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas  
14 Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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16 SECTION 4. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
17 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
18 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
19 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
20 act are declared to be severable.

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22 SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
23 hereby repealed.

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