

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 85th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2005

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2428

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5 By: Representative Harrelson
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO REQUIRE SCREENING OF NEWBORNS FOR
10 CYSTIC FIBROSIS, CONGENITAL ADRENAL HYPERPLASIA,
11 MAPLE SYRUP URINE DISEASE, HOMOCYSTEINURIA,
12 BIOTINIDASE DEFICIENCY, MEDIUM CHAIN ACY1-COA
13 DEHYDROGENASE DEFICIENCY, AND HIVSEROPOSITIVITY;
14 TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH
15 A DATABASE AND AN EDUCATION PROGRAM FOCUSING ON
16 HEALTH DANGERS TO NEWBORNS; AND FOR OTHER
17 PURPOSES.

Subtitle

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20 AN ACT TO EXPAND HEALTH SCREENING
21 REQUIREMENTS FOR NEWBORNS.
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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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

28 20-15-302. Testing of newborns.

29 (a)(1)(A) All newborn infants shall be tested for phenylketonuria,
30 hypothyroidism, galactosemia, cystic fibrosis, congenital adrenal
31 hyperplasia, maple syrup urine disease, homocysteinuria, biotinidase
32 deficiency, medium chain acyl-coA dehydrogenase deficiency,
33 HIVseropositivity, and sickle-cell anemia.

34 (B) In addition, if reliable and efficient
35 testing techniques are available, all newborn infants shall be tested for
36 other genetic disorders of metabolism by employing procedures approved by the



1 State Board of Health.

2 (2)(A) Medicaid shall reimburse the hospital that performs the
 3 tests required under subdivision (a)(1) of this section for the cost of the
 4 tests.

5 (B) The reimbursement shall be in addition to the
 6 hospital's per diem payments for the newborn infant.

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

9 (c)(1) The department shall establish and maintain a program of
 10 reviewing and following up on positive cases so that measures may be taken to
 11 prevent mental retardation or other permanent disabilities.

12 (2)(A) Information on newborn infants and their families
 13 compiled under this section may be used by the department and persons or
 14 public or private entities designated by the department.

15 (B) Information used under subdivision (c)(2)(A) of this
 16 section may not refer to or disclose the identity of any person.

17 (3) All materials, data, and information received by the
 18 department are confidential and are not subject to examination or disclosure
 19 as public information under the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, § 25-19-
 20 101 et seq.

21 (d)(1) The department shall conduct an intensive educational and
 22 training program among physicians, hospitals, public health nurses, and the
 23 public concerning the disorders covered under this section.

24 (2) The program shall include information concerning:

25 (A) The nature of the disorders;

26 (B) Testing for the detection of these disorders; and

27 (C) Treatment modalities for these disorders.

28 (e) The provisions of this section shall not apply if the parents or
 29 legal guardian of a newborn infant object to the testing on medical,
 30 religious, or philosophical grounds.

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