



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Raised Bill No. 5686

LCO No. 2245

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT REQUIRING THE SCREENING OF NEWBORNS FOR METABOLIC DISEASES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 19a-55 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2002*):

4 (a) The administrative officer or other person in charge of each
5 institution caring for newborn infants shall cause to have administered
6 to every such infant in its care an HIV-related test, as defined in section
7 19a-581, a test for phenylketonuria and other metabolic diseases,
8 hypothyroidism, galactosemia, sickle cell disease, maple syrup urine
9 disease, homocystinuria, biotinidase deficiency, congenital adrenal
10 hyperplasia and such other tests for inborn errors of metabolism as
11 shall be prescribed by the Department of Public Health. The tests shall
12 be administered as soon after birth as is medically appropriate. If the
13 mother has had an HIV-related test pursuant to section 19a-90 or 19a-
14 593, the person responsible for testing under this section may omit an
15 HIV-related test. The Commissioner of Public Health shall (1)
16 administer the newborn screening program, (2) direct persons

17 identified through the screening program to appropriate specialty
18 centers for treatments, consistent with any applicable confidentiality
19 requirements, and (3) set the fees to be charged to institutions to cover
20 all expenses of the comprehensive screening program including
21 testing, tracking and treatment. The commissioner shall adopt
22 regulations specifying the abnormal conditions to be tested for and the
23 manner of recording and reporting results.

24 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2002*) The sum of five hundred thousand
25 dollars is appropriated to the Department of Mental Retardation, from
26 the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, for the
27 purpose of purchasing two tandem mass spectrometers to be used for
28 screening newborns for metabolic diseases including, but not limited
29 to, phenylketonuria.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2002</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To require the testing of newborns for metabolic diseases and the provide funding for equipment to test for such diseases.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]