



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Raised Bill No. 1178

LCO No. 3921

03921_____KID

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:
(KID)

AN ACT CONCERNING LEAD SCREENING FOR CHILDREN.

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

1 Section 1. Section 19a-55 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

3 (a) The administrative officer or other person in charge of each
4 institution caring for newborn infants shall cause to have administered
5 to every such infant in its care a test for elevated blood lead levels, an
6 HIV-related test, as defined in section 19a-581, a test for
7 phenylketonuria and other metabolic diseases, hypothyroidism,
8 galactosemia, sickle cell disease, maple syrup urine disease,
9 homocystinuria, biotinidase deficiency, congenital adrenal hyperplasia
10 and such other tests for inborn errors of metabolism as shall be
11 prescribed by the Department of Public Health. The tests shall be
12 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 fees to be charged pursuant to
22 subdivision (3) of this [section] subsection shall be set at a minimum of
23 twenty-eight dollars. The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in
24 accordance with chapter 54, specifying the abnormal conditions to be
25 tested for and the manner of recording and reporting results. On or
26 before January 1, 2004, such regulations shall include requirements for
27 testing for amino acid disorders, organic acid disorders and fatty acid
28 oxidation disorders, including, but not limited to, long-chain 3-
29 hydroxyacyl CoA dehydrogenase (L-CHAD) and medium-chain acyl-
30 CoA dehydrogenase (MCAD).

31 (b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any infant whose
32 parents object to the test or treatment as being in conflict with their
33 religious tenets and practice.

34 Sec. 2. Section 38a-535 of the general statutes is repealed and the
35 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

36 (a) For purposes of this section, "preventive pediatric care" means
37 the periodic review of a child's physical and emotional health from
38 birth through six years of age by or under the supervision of a
39 physician. Such review shall include a medical history, complete
40 physical examination, developmental assessment, anticipatory
41 guidance, appropriate immunizations and laboratory tests in keeping
42 with prevailing medical standards.

43 (b) Every group health insurance policy providing coverage of the
44 type specified in subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (6), (11) and (12) of section
45 38a-469 delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after October 1,
46 1989, or continued as defined in section 38a-531, on or after October 1,
47 1990, shall provide benefits for preventive pediatric care for any child
48 covered by the policy or contract at approximately the following age
49 intervals: Every two months from birth to six months of age, every

50 three months from nine to eighteen months of age and annually from
51 two through six years of age. Each such policy shall provide coverage
52 for elevated blood lead level testing at twelve months and at twenty
53 four months of age. Each such policy shall provide coverage for annual
54 elevated blood lead level testing for any child less than six years of age
55 who has developmental delays. Any such policy may provide that
56 services rendered during a periodic review shall be covered to the
57 extent that such services are provided by or under the supervision of a
58 single physician during the course of one visit. Such benefits shall be
59 subject to any policy provisions which apply to other services covered
60 by such policy.

61 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2005*) All children who are
62 enrolled in HUSKY Plan Part A shall be tested for elevated blood lead
63 levels at one year of age and again at two years of age. If such a child
64 has a developmental delay, such child shall be tested annually for
65 elevated blood lead levels until such child is six years of age.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	19a-55
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	38a-535
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish mandatory lead screenings for children.

[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.]