



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 66

February Session, 2012

Senate Bill No. 56

Senate, March 21, 2012

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. GERRATANA of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING PULSE OXIMETRY SCREENING FOR NEWBORN INFANTS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 19a-55 of the 2012 supplement to
2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

4 (b) In addition to the testing requirements prescribed in subsection
5 (a) of this section, the administrative officer or other person in charge
6 of each institution caring for newborn infants shall cause to have
7 administered to every such infant in its care a screening test for cystic
8 fibrosis, a pulse oximetry screening test and a screening test for severe
9 combined immunodeficiency disease. Such screening tests shall be
10 administered as soon after birth as is medically appropriate.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2012</i>	19a-55(b)
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PH *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill requires hospitals to perform pulse oximetry tests on all newborns. There is no anticipated state or municipal impact.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 56*****AN ACT CONCERNING PULSE OXIMETRY SCREENING FOR NEWBORN INFANTS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires all health care institutions caring for newborn infants to perform a pulse oximetry test on them, unless, as allowed by law, their parents object on religious grounds. It requires the testing to be done as soon as medically appropriate. Like existing law that requires these institutions to test newborn infants for cystic fibrosis and severe combined immunodeficiency disease, the test is not part of the state's newborn screening program for genetic and metabolic disorders. That program, in addition to screening, directs parents of identified infants to counseling and treatment.

A pulse oximetry test measures how much oxygen is in the blood by placing a small light sensor on the infant's hand or foot. It is used to screen infants for critical congenital heart disease and other conditions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2012

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/09/2012)