



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 257

February Session, 2014



AN ACT CONCERNING HEPATITIS C TESTING.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2014*) (a) For purposes of this
2 section:

3 (1) "Hepatitis C screening test" means a laboratory test that detects
4 the presence of hepatitis C virus antibodies in the blood;

5 (2) "Hepatitis C diagnostic test" means a laboratory test that detects
6 the presence of hepatitis C virus in the blood and provides
7 confirmation of whether the person whose blood is being tested has a
8 hepatitis C virus infection;

9 (3) "Primary care provider" means a physician, advanced practice
10 registered nurse or physician assistant who provides primary care
11 services and is licensed by the Department of Public Health pursuant
12 to Title 20 of the general statutes; and

13 (4) "Primary care" means the medical fields of family medicine,
14 general pediatrics, primary care, internal medicine, primary care
15 obstetrics or primary care gynecology, without regard to board
16 certification.

17 (b) On and after October 1, 2014, a primary care provider shall offer

18 to provide to, or order for, each patient who was born between 1945 to
19 1965, inclusive, a hepatitis C screening test or hepatitis C diagnostic
20 test at the time the primary care provider provides services to such
21 patient, except a primary care provider is not required to offer to
22 provide to, or order for, such patient a hepatitis C screening test or
23 hepatitis C diagnostic test when the primary care provider reasonably
24 believes: (1) Such patient is being treated for a life-threatening
25 emergency; (2) such patient has previously been offered or has
26 received a hepatitis C screening test; or (3) such patient lacks the
27 capacity to consent to a hepatitis C screening test.

28 (c) A primary care provider who provides or orders a hepatitis C
29 screening test pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, and receives
30 notice that said test is reactive shall offer the patient having a reactive
31 test continuing health care relating to the reactive test or refer such
32 patient to another health care provider for such continuing health care.
33 Such continuing health care shall include a hepatitis C diagnostic test.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	New section

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*