

To Whom it may concern,

I had not heard of congenital CMV before my very dear friend lost her second child, Madeline Leigh, on February 12th due to CMV related complications. Madeline was only 12 days old.

It only takes a few minutes of on-line research to discover that CMV is a common virus and not harmful among toddlers, that is transmitted by exchange of body fluids. In those same few minutes of research it becomes clear that there are simple precautionary measures that pregnant women can implement to lower the incidence of infection. Women who want to expand their families deserve to know that there is a risk of infection and that there are simple measures they can take to significantly reduce that risk. I too have a toddler and would like to be informed and have information available for me to reduce the risk of infection when I want to have another child.

I support Bill HB 5147 for CMV awareness, and CMV education for all pregnant women and CMV testing and treatment for newborns !

Christine Faulkner