

HB 3107 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 04/01/21

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 10-0-0-0

Yeas: 10 - Alonso Leon, Campos, Dexter, Drazan, Hayden, Moore-Green, Noble, Prusak, Salinas, Schouten

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 3/30, 4/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates funds to the Oregon Health Authority to test newborns for spinal muscular atrophy. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Spinal muscular atrophy (SMA)
- Early testing and effectiveness of early SMA treatments
- Northwest Regional Newborn Bloodspot Screening Advisory Board's recent recommendation to screen newborns for SMA

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

A well-established practice of state public health programs is universal screening of newborns before leaving the hospital. Screening helps to detect serious medical conditions that can result in early death or lifelong disability even when a newborn appears healthy. Early detection and intervention can prevent mortality and improve the quality of life for newborns with metabolic disorders. Advances in screening technologies have enabled health care providers to detect an increased number of metabolic disorders.

Oregon law requires hospitals and midwives to collect a blood sample from every baby born as part of the newborn screening program (ORS 433.285). Newborns are often screened twice, once at the hospital and then again at the child's first medical appointment. As of September 2020, the Oregon Newborn Screening Program screens newborns for more than 40 metabolic disorders approved by the Oregon Health Authority. The Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (OSPHL) tests blood samples from newborns and shares the results with health care providers. The testing results help health care professionals know when a newborn needs immediate medical attention.

In 2019, House Bill 2563 passed creating the Northwest Regional Newborn Bloodspot Screening Advisory Board (Board) in the Oregon Health Authority. The Board is responsible for recommending the addition of disorders to the state's newborn bloodspot screening panel. The Board's 2020 report recommends newborns be screened for spinal muscular atrophy, as it is the most common cause of genetic death among infants.

House Bill 3107 A appropriates funding to the Oregon Health Authority to test newborns for spinal muscular atrophy in Oregon.