

Submitter: V S

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2685

I am writing to impress upon you the importance of providing parents educational materials on CMV and incorporating/performing timely screenings for newborns at hospitals and birthing centers. CMV is one of the leading causes of congenital infections and can lead to serious health issues for newborns, including hearing loss and developmental delays. Having a well-defined screening protocol is crucial for early identification and intervention, helping to reduce long-term complications for affected infants.

I have the honor of working with kids experiencing hearing loss as a result of CMV and have seen firsthand the wide range of experiences that can come from families that were able to receive prompt screenings and management and those who were not able to. Many who were not able to experience significant challenges to their communication, development, and overall quality of life. Prompt identification and management provides infants and children improved access to the care they need, allowing them to flourish in their development and communication abilities. In addition, prompt actions such as these, educate and empower families to pursue the best care for their newborns.

You can make a significant difference in preventing CMV-related complications.

Thank you for your time.