

HB 948 -- Newborn Screening Tests

Sponsor: Schaaf

This bill changes the laws regarding the handling of newborn screening test specimens. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Requires specimens to be kept for five years after submission to the Department of Health and Senior Services and then destroyed unless otherwise directed by the parent or guardian;

(2) Specifies that a specimen released for anonymous study cannot contain information that identifies the donor;

(3) Specifies that the department has authority over the use, retention, and disposal of specimens and the information collected in newborn screening tests; and

(4) Allows the department to charge a fee for the use of newborn screening specimens for public health research.