

SB 230 -- CHLOE'S LAW

This bill establishes Chloe's Law, which requires, effective January 1, 2014, every newborn infant born in this state to be screened for critical congenital heart disease. Every newborn delivered on or after January 1, 2014, in an ambulatory surgical center, birthing center, hospital, or home must be screened for the disease with pulse oximetry or in another manner as directed by the Department of Health and Senior Services in accordance with the American Academy of Pediatrics and American Heart Association guidelines prior to the newborn being discharged from a health care facility. If delivery occurs in a home, the individual performing the delivery must perform the screening within 48 hours of birth.

The screening results must be reported to the parents or guardians of the newborn and the department in a manner prescribed by the department. The facility or individual must develop and implement plans to ensure that newborns with positive screens receive appropriate confirmatory procedures and referral for treatment as indicated.

The provisions of the bill must not apply if a parent or guardian of the newborn objects to the screening because it conflicts with his or her religious tenets and practices. The refusal must be in writing and reported to the department in a manner prescribed by the department.

The department must provide consultation and administrative technical support to facilities and persons implementing the provisions of the bill including assistance in developing and implementing screening protocols, developing and training facilities and persons on the implementation of protocols, developing and distributing education materials for families, and implementing reporting requirements.