

By: Representatives Holland, Scott (17th),
Scott (80th)

To: Public Health and
Welfare

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 986

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-21-203, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REQUIRE THE PHYSICIAN ATTENDING A NEWBORN CHILD, OR THE PERSON
3 ATTENDING A NEWBORN CHILD THAT WAS NOT ATTENDED BY A PHYSICIAN, TO
4 NOTIFY THE PARENTS OF THE NEWBORN CHILD THAT THERE ARE NEWBORN
5 SCREENING TESTS AVAILABLE THAT MAY BE GIVEN TO THE CHILD IN
6 ADDITION TO THE REQUIRED TESTS, AND TO PROVIDE THE PARENTS WITH
7 INFORMATION ABOUT THOSE TESTS; TO AMEND SECTION 41-21-201,
8 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF
9 HEALTH TO DEVELOP INFORMATION MATERIALS ABOUT AVAILABLE NEWBORN
10 SCREENING TESTS, WHICH MAY BE USED BY PHYSICIANS AND OTHERS TO
11 PROVIDE THE REQUIRED INFORMATION TO PARENTS UNDER SECTION
12 41-21-203; TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO PROVIDE
13 FOR TESTING FOR CONGENITAL ADRENAL HYPERPLASIA (CAH) AS PART OF
14 ITS NEWBORN SCREENING PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

16 SECTION 1. Section 41-21-203, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
17 amended as follows:

18 41-21-203. (1) The physician attending a newborn child, or
19 the person attending a newborn child that was not attended by a
20 physician, shall provide the child tests that have been approved
21 by the State Board of Health. However, no such tests shall be
22 given to any child whose parents object thereto on the grounds
23 that the test conflicts with his religious practices or tenets.
24 The State Department of Health shall follow up all positive tests
25 with the attending physician who notified the department thereof,
26 or with the parents of the newborn child when the notification was
27 made by a person other than a physician. When a test is
28 confirmed, the services and facilities of the State Department of
29 Health and those of other state boards, departments and agencies
30 cooperating with the State Department of Health in carrying out
31 the program shall be made available to the extent needed by the
32 physician.



33 (2) In addition to the requirements of subsection (1) of
34 this section, the physician attending a newborn child, or the
35 person attending a newborn child that was not attended by a
36 physician, shall notify the parents of the newborn child that
37 there are newborn screening tests available that may be given to
38 the child in addition to the required tests, and shall provide the
39 parents with information about those tests.

40 SECTION 2. Section 41-21-201, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
41 amended as follows:

42 41-21-201. (1) The State Department of Health is * * *
43 authorized to establish, maintain and carry out a newborn
44 screening program designed to detect hypothyroidism,
45 phenylketonuria (PKU), hemoglobinopathy, congenital adrenal
46 hyperplasia (CAH) and galactosemia which may result in mental
47 retardation or medical complications in children. The State Board
48 of Health is authorized to adopt rules and regulations necessary
49 to accomplish the program.

50 (2) The State Department of Health shall develop information
51 materials about available newborn screening tests, which may be
52 used by physicians and others to provide the required information
53 to parents under Section 41-21-203.

54 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
55 and after July 1, 2001.

