

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 TO NOTIFY THE PARENTS OF THE NEWBORN
4 CHILD THAT THERE ARE NEWBORN SCREENING TESTS AVAILABLE THAT MAY BE
5 GIVEN TO THE CHILD IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIRED TESTS, AND TO
6 PROVIDE THE PARENTS WITH INFORMATION ABOUT THOSE TESTS; TO AMEND
7 SECTION 41-21-201, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THE STATE
8 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO DEVELOP INFORMATION MATERIALS ABOUT
9 AVAILABLE NEWBORN SCREENING TESTS, WHICH MAY BE USED BY PHYSICIANS
10 AND OTHERS TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED INFORMATION TO PARENTS UNDER
11 SECTION 41-21-203; TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO
12 PROVIDE FOR TESTING FOR CONGENITAL ADRENAL HYPERPLASIA (CAH) AS
13 PART OF ITS NEWBORN SCREENING PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

17 41-21-203. (1) The physician attending a newborn child or
18 the person attending a newborn child * * * shall provide the child
19 tests that have been approved by the State Board of Health.
20 However, no such tests shall be given to any child whose parents
21 object thereto on the grounds that the test conflicts with his
22 religious practices or tenets. The State Department of Health
23 shall follow up all positive tests with the attending physician
24 who notified the department thereof, or with the parents of the
25 newborn child when the notification was made by a person other
26 than a physician. When a test is confirmed, the services and
27 facilities of the State Department of Health and those of other
28 state boards, departments and agencies cooperating with the State
29 Department of Health in carrying out the program shall be made
30 available to the extent needed by the physician.

31 (2) In addition to the requirements of subsection (1) of
32 this section, the physician attending a newborn child or the
33 person attending a newborn child shall notify the parents of the
34 newborn child that there are newborn screening tests available
35 that may be given to the child in addition to the required tests,
36 and shall provide the parents with information about those tests.

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

39 41-21-201. (1) The State Department of Health is * * *
40 authorized to establish, maintain and carry out a newborn
41 screening program designed to detect hypothyroidism,
42 phenylketonuria (PKU), hemoglobinopathy, congenital adrenal
43 hyperplasia (CAH) and galactosemia which may result in mental
44 retardation or medical complications in children. The State Board
45 of Health is authorized to adopt rules and regulations necessary
46 to accomplish the program.

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

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