

SENATE BILL 65

By Overbey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68,  
relative to screening of newborns.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 5, Part 5, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

68-5-507.

(a) On or before, January 1, 2012, the genetic advisory committee is directed to develop a screening program for critical cyanotic congenital heart disease for the panel of screens authorized for newborns under § 68-5-504 that makes use of pulse oximetry.

(b) A child born in a hospital or other birthing facility shall be screened for critical cyanotic congenital heart disease prior to discharge from that facility. The attending health care professional shall refer a child born in a setting other than a hospital or other birthing facility to the department of health or an appropriate screening provider as approved by the department of health. A child born on an emergency basis in a hospital that does not otherwise provide obstetrical or maternity services and that does not provide critical cyanotic congenital heart disease screening prior to discharge of an infant from the hospital, shall refer a child born in that facility to an appropriate screening provider approved by the department. All screening providers or entities shall report their screening results to the department of health. The department of health shall refer any child who does not pass the screening to appropriate providers for appropriate follow-up.

(c) The commissioner of health shall promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5, to effectuate this act.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011, the public welfare requiring it.