

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1067

Introduced by Rogert, 16.

Read first time January 21, 2010

Committee: Health and Human Services

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to infants; to state findings; to require pulse
2 oximetry screening for newborn infants; and to provide
3 duties for the Department of Health and Human Services.
4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. The Legislature finds that:

2 (1) Congenital heart defects occur in approximately one
3 of every one hundred ten births and are the leading cause of
4 newborn and infant deaths;

5 (2) Fetal congenital heart defects may be missed by
6 prenatal ultrasound;

7 (3) Researchers have found that half of serious
8 congenital heart defects are missed by routine examinations after
9 birth;

10 (4) Researchers have identified a method of identifying
11 congenital heart defects known as pulse oximetry which is a
12 noninvasive test which can detect three-fourths of critical
13 congenital heart defects;

14 (5) No specialized equipment other than a pulse oximeter
15 is needed, and such equipment is already present in every hospital;
16 and

17 (6) Pulse oximetry screening should be done routinely
18 on newborn infants in Nebraska to discover and treat possible
19 congenital heart defects and save infants' lives.

20 Sec. 2. Pulse oximetry screening shall be conducted on
21 all infants born in the State of Nebraska within a period of time
22 prescribed by the Department of Health and Human Services. The
23 hospital or other birthing facility in which such screening occurs
24 shall record the results of such test and shall provide such test
25 results upon request to the infant's parent and to any medical

1 practitioner or health care facility to which a screened infant is
2 referred for followup care and treatment.

3 If a birth is not attended by a physician and the infant
4 does not have a physician, the person registering the birth shall
5 cause such tests to be performed within the period and in the
6 manner prescribed by the department.

7 The department shall adopt and promulgate rules and
8 regulations to carry out this section.