

Committee Substitute for
Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 817

An act relating to newborn infant screening; authorizing formation of a task force within the Division of Children's Medical Services Prevention and Intervention of the Department of Health; providing purpose; providing membership, organization, and expenses; requiring review of data and recommendations and a plan for newborn infant screening requirements; requiring consideration of the costs of expansion and testing; requiring a report; providing for termination of the task force; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. (1) There is created within the Division of Children's Medical Services Prevention and Intervention of the Department of Health the Infant Screening Programs Task Force. This task force is created to perform comparative research regarding the infant screening programs currently operating in other states. The task force consists of 15 members as follows:

(a) All members of the Genetics and Infant Screening Advisory Council.

(b) One member of the Florida Hospital Association designated by the executive director of the association.

(c) One member of the Florida Statutory Teaching Hospital Council designated by the chair of the council.

(d) One representative from the Florida chapter of the March of Dimes appointed by the head of the Florida chapter.

(2)(a) The first meeting of the task force shall be held in Tallahassee no later than May 1, 2002.

(b) The chair of the Genetics and Infant Screening Advisory Council shall serve as the chair of the task force. All decisions of the task force shall be by majority vote of the members present at a duly convened meeting of the task force. All meetings and records of the task force are subject to the requirements of s. 24, Art. I of the State Constitution.

(c) Members of the task force that are members of the Genetics and Infant Screening Advisory Council shall receive per diem as provided in s. 112.061, Florida Statutes; other members of the task force shall pay their own expenses.

(3) Staff of the Division of Children's Medical Services Prevention and Intervention shall be assigned by the director to provide support to the task force.

(4) The task force shall collect data from all states operating infant screening programs. All necessary research shall be completed by no later than August 1, 2002.

(5) Based upon the data collected, the task force shall prepare recommendations regarding the newborn infant screening requirement provided in s. 383.14, Florida Statutes, and develop a newborn infant screening plan tailored to the needs of Florida's population. As part of the review of current screening requirements and in the formulation of its recommended plan, the task force shall consider the cost of current testing, the cost of expansion, appropriate mechanisms for reimbursing the cost of testing, and the appropriate location for such testing.

(6) The task force shall submit a final report of its review and recommended plan to the Secretary of Health, the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than September 1, 2002.

(7) The task force shall terminate upon the submission of the final report.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor April 22, 2002.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 22, 2002.