
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DUCHENNE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and
3 to read as follows:

4 **"PART NEWBORN DUCHENNE**
5 **MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY SCREENING**

6 **"§321- Newborn Duchenne muscular dystrophy screening.**

7 (a) Prior to discharge of any newborn in its care, a birthing
8 facility shall perform on the newborn a test to screen for
9 newborn Duchenne muscular dystrophy.

10 (b) Subsection (a) shall not apply if a parent, guardian,
11 or other person having custody or control of the newborn objects
12 to performance of the test required by subsection (a) because
13 the test conflicts with their religious tenets and beliefs, and
14 written objection is made a part of the newborn's medical
15 record.

16 (c) Each birthing facility shall report Duchenne muscular
17 dystrophy screening data to the department of health for quality



1 assurance and improvement activities. At a minimum, the data
2 shall include:

3 (1) The numbers of newborns screened and not screened;

4 (2) The timing of screening after birth;

5 (3) Screening results; and

6 (4) Other data required by the department of health.

7 (d) The department of health shall adopt rules pursuant to
8 chapter 91 necessary for the purposes of this section.

9 (e) For the purposes of this section, "birthing facility"
10 shall have the same meaning as in section 321-296."

11 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
12 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
13 begun before its effective date.

14 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Jan Mitchell
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Report Title:

DOH; Newborns; Screening; Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

Description:

Requires birthing facilities to screen newborns for Duchenne muscular dystrophy, and to report data to the Department of Health. Provides a screening exemption when parents or guardians object on religious grounds.

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