

SENATE BILL NO. 92—COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FEBRUARY 6, 2013

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Makes certain changes related to the health of infants. (BDR 40-529)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to public health; requiring that infants born in certain institutions be examined for critical congenital heart disease; providing an exception for written parental objection; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Any physician, midwife, nurse, obstetric center or hospital attending or
2 assisting any infant, or the mother of any infant, at childbirth is required to examine
3 and test the infant for certain preventable and inheritable disorders. If the tests
4 reveal such a disorder, the physician, midwife, nurse, obstetric center or hospital is
5 required to: (1) report the condition to the State Health Officer, the local health
6 officer of the county or city within which the infant or the mother of the infant
7 resides, and the local health officer of the county or city in which the child is born;
8 and (2) discuss the condition and treatment of the condition with the parents or
9 other persons responsible for the care of the infant. (NRS 442.008) This bill
10 requires any physician, midwife or nurse attending or assisting any infant, or the
11 mother of any infant, at childbirth at an obstetric center or a hospital which
12 regularly offers obstetric services in the normal course of business to examine the
13 infant for critical congenital heart disease, including conducting pulse oximetry
14 screening, and to report any positive results to the State Health Officer and discuss
15 such results with the parent of or other person responsible for the infant. This bill
16 provides an exception to the requirement for examination in the event of written
17 parental objection.



THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 442 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, any physician, midwife or nurse attending or assisting in any way any infant, or the mother of any infant, at childbirth at an obstetric center or a hospital which regularly offers obstetric services in the normal course of business and not only on an emergency basis shall make or cause to be made an examination of the infant, including, without limitation, conducting pulse oximetry screening, to determine whether the infant suffers from critical congenital heart disease.

2. If the examination reveals that an infant suffers from critical congenital heart disease, the physician, midwife or nurse attending or assisting at the birth of the infant shall:

(a) Report the condition to the State Health Officer or a representative of the State Health Officer; and

(b) Discuss the condition with the parent, parents or other persons responsible for the care of the infant and inform them of the treatment necessary for the amelioration of the condition.

3. An examination of an infant is not required pursuant to this section if either parent files a written objection with the person responsible for conducting the examination or with the obstetric center or hospital at which the infant is born.

4. The State Board of Health may adopt such regulations as necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

