

## 22 §1532. DETECTION OF COGNITIVE DISABILITY

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The department shall require hospitals, maternity homes and other maternity services to test newborn infants, or to cause them to be tested, for the presence of metabolic abnormalities that may be expected to result in subsequent cognitive disabilities. The department shall adopt rules to define this requirement and the approved testing methods, materials, procedure and testing sequences. Reports and records of those making these tests may be required to be submitted to the department in accordance with departmental rules. The department may, on request, offer consultation, training and evaluation services to those testing facilities. The department shall adopt rules according to which it shall in a timely fashion refer newborn infants with confirmed metabolic abnormalities to the Child Development Services System as defined in Title 20-A, section 7001, subsection 1-A. The department shall also adopt rules according to which it shall in a timely fashion refer a newborn infant to the Child Development Services System if at least 6 months have passed since an initial positive test result of a metabolic abnormality without the specific nature of the metabolic abnormality's having been confirmed. The department and the Department of Education shall execute an interagency agreement to facilitate all referrals in this section. In accordance with the interagency agreement, the Department of Education shall offer a single point of contact for the Department of Health and Human Services to use in making referrals. Also in accordance with the interagency agreement, the Child Development Services System may make direct contact with the families who are referred. The referrals may take place electronically. For purposes of quality assurance and improvement, the Child Development Services System shall supply to the department aggregate data at least annually on the number of children referred to the Child Development Services System under this section who are found eligible for early intervention services and on the number of children found not eligible for early intervention services. In addition, the department shall supply data at least annually to the Child Development Services System on how many children in the metabolic abnormality detection program were screened and how many were found to have a metabolic disorder. The requirement in this section that a newborn infant be tested for the presence of metabolic abnormalities that may be expected to result in subsequent cognitive disability does not apply to a child if the parents of that child object on the grounds that the test conflicts with their religious tenets and practices. [2007, c. 450, Pt. A, §7 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

2007, c. 450, Pt. A, §7 (AMD).

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