

HB 2754 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Steiner Hayward

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 05/30/17

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Beyer, Knopp, Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Steiner Hayward

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires educational information relating to congenital cytomegalovirus (CMV) to be distributed each time a child fails a hearing test, whether at a hospital, birthing center or diagnostic facility, and whether following the first test required by law or the second test required by law. Requires Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to disseminate informational information about CMV at the time of failing of hearing test and develop a schedule, by rule or otherwise, under which hearing tests, referrals and CMV testing occur within 21 days. Establishes that the schedule is to be distributed to hospitals, birthing centers and diagnostic facilities. Requires OHA to educate health care professionals and diagnostic testing facilities through print materials on signs, symptoms and treatment options for CMV.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of early detection of hearing loss due to cytomegalovirus (CMV)
- Referring newborn children with hearing loss to diagnose whether child has congenital CMV
- Oregon Health Authority compiling and disseminating information on congenital CMV

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Requires educational information relating to congenital CMV to be distributed each time a child fails a hearing test, whether at a hospital, birthing center or diagnostic facility, and whether following the first test required by law or the second test required by law. Requires OHA to disseminate informational information about CMV at the time of failing of hearing test. Requires OHA to develop a schedule, by rule or otherwise, under which hearing tests, referrals and CMV testing occur within 21 days.

BACKGROUND:

Cytomegalovirus (CMV) is a herpes virus that can remain dormant in the body and can cause complications during pregnancy and for individuals with weakened immune systems. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimate that over 50 percent of adults in the United States are infected by the age of 40 years old. It affects males and females equally, at any age, and regardless of ethnicity. A CMV infection can pass from the mother to the fetus during pregnancy. The CDC estimates that one in 150 newborns are infected with CMV at birth and that most of these infants will have no signs or symptoms. However, about 20 percent of them will develop symptoms or long-term health complications, including learning disabilities. Severe symptoms include vision and hearing loss, small head size, weakness and difficulty using muscles, coordination issues and seizures.

House Bill 2754-A seeks to improve education, awareness and screening of newborns in Oregon for a viral infection, congenital cytomegalovirus.