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Offered: 3/2/67
Referred: Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HEALTH, WELFARE
AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 73

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the disease Phenylketonuria; and
7 providing for an effective date."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. AS 18.15.200 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

10 Sec. 18.15.200. SCREENING INFANTS FOR PHENYLKETONURIA. (a) A
11 physician who attends a newborn child shall cause this child to be
12 tested for phenylketonuria (PKU). If the mother is delivered in the
13 absence of a physician, the nurse who first visits the child shall
14 cause this test to be performed.

15 (b) The Department of Health and Welfare shall prescribe regula-
16 tions regarding the method used and the time or times of testing as
17 accepted medical practices indicates.

18 (c) The necessary laboratory tests and the test materials,
19 reporting forms and mailing cartons shall be provided by the department.

20 (d) All tests considered positive by the screening method shall
21 be reported by the screening laboratory to the physician and to the
22 department. The department shall provide services for the performance
23 of a quantitative blood phenylalanine test or its equivalent for
24 diagnostic purposes. A confirmed diagnosis of phenylketonuria shall
25 be reported to the physician and to the department. The department
26 shall provide services for treatment and clinical follow-up of any
27 diagnosed case.

28 (e) When presumptive positive screening tests have been reported
29 to the department, it shall provide, on request, either the true blood

1 phenylalanine test or subsidize the performance of this test at an
2 approved laboratory.

3 (f) A licensed physician or licensed nurse attending a newborn
4 or infant who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor, and
5 upon conviction is punishable by a fine of not more than \$500. However,
6 a person attending a newborn or infant whose request for appropriate
7 specimens from the newborn or infant is denied by the parent or
8 guardian is not guilty of a misdemeanor. The fact that a child has
9 not been subjected to the test because a request for appropriate
10 specimens has been denied by the parents or guardian shall be reported
11 to the department. The department shall administer and provide services
12 for testing for other heritable diseases which lead to mental retarda-
13 tion and physical handicaps as screening programs accepted by current
14 medical practice and as developed.

15 (g) In this section, "physician" means a doctor of medicine
16 licensed to practice medicine in this state, or an officer in the
17 regular medical service of the armed forces of the United States or
18 the United States Public Health Service assigned to duty in this state.

19 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 1967.
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