



LAWS OF ALASKA

1967

Source

CSHB 73

Chapter No.

39

AN ACT

Relating to the disease Phenylketonuria; and providing for an effective date.

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

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 AS 18.15.200 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

Sec. 18.15.200. SCREENING INFANTS FOR PHENYLKETONURIA.

- (a) A physician who attends a newborn child shall cause this child to be tested for phenylketonuria (PKU). If the mother is delivered in the absence of a physician, the nurse who first visits the child shall cause this test to be performed.
- (b) The Department of Health and Welfare shall prescribe regulations regarding the method used and the time or times of testing as accepted medical practice indicates.
- (c) The necessary laboratory tests and the test materials, reporting forms and mailing cartons shall be provided by the department.
- (d) All tests considered positive by the screening method shall be reported by the screening laboratory to the physician and to the department. The department shall provide services for the performance of a quantitative blood phenylalanine test or its equivalent for diagnostic purposes. A confirmed diagnosis of phenylketonuria shall be reported to the physician and to the department. The department shall provide services for treatment and clinical follow-up of any diagnosed case.
- (e) When presumptive positive screening tests have been reported to the department, it shall provide, on request, either the true blood phenylalanine test or

subsidize the performance of this test at an approved laboratory.

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

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

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