



LAWS OF ALASKA

2013

Source
CSSB 87(HSS)

Chapter No.

AN ACT

Requiring screening of newborns for congenital heart defects; and providing for an effective date.

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

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1

AN ACT

1 Requiring screening of newborns for congenital heart defects; and providing for an effective
2 date.

3 _____

4 * **Section 1.** AS 18.15 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 18.15.205. Screening for congenital heart disease.** (a) A provider of
6 birthing services who attends a birth in the state shall ensure that, as close to 24 hours
7 after the birth as feasible, screening for congenital heart defects through pulse
8 oximetry equipment and methods appropriate for use on a newborn is performed on
9 the newborn, unless screening is refused under (d) of this section.

10 (b) A provider of birthing services who attends a birth in the state shall, as
11 soon as possible after screening conducted under (a) of this section, make a referral for
12 confirmatory testing on a newborn whose pulse oximetry results are abnormal and
13 provide advice to the parent or legal guardian regarding the need for appropriate
14 interventions.

1 (c) The provider who performs pulse oximetry screening under (a) of this
2 section shall report to the parents and attending physicians of the newborn and to the
3 department the results of screening.

4 (d) Before performing screening for congenital heart disease under (a) of this
5 section, a provider of birthing services shall provide to a parent or legal guardian of a
6 newborn information on the screening and the option to refuse the screening.

7 (e) The department shall establish procedures for submitting reports of
8 newborn screening results to the department and for summarizing reported data.

9 (f) In this section, "provider of birthing services" means a physician, midwife,
10 nurse, or other qualified professional who attends the delivery of a newborn in the
11 course of the provider's practice.

12 * **Sec. 2.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
13 read:

14 APPLICABILITY. AS 18.15.205, enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, does not apply to a
15 provider of birthing services who attends fewer than 20 births a year in the state until
16 January 1, 2016.

17 * **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2014.