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From: Jinkins, Rep. Laurie [mailto:Laurie.Jinkins@leg.wa.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, July 23, 2014 10:58 AM

To: Davis, Michelle (DOH)

Subject: Congenital Heart Disease Screening

Michelle,

Recently the American Heart Association (in partnership with the March of Dimes, the American College of Cardiology, and Seattle Children's) requested the State Board of Health take the first step toward adding Critical Congenital Heart Disease screening to the newborn screening panel. Without these screenings, some newborns with CCHDs might be missed because the signs of CCHD might not be evident before an infant is discharged from the hospital after birth, putting that child at great risk.

I'm very excited about this request because it was one of the health systems in my district, Multicare, that brought this screening idea to me three years ago. They've implemented with very little cost and, at that time, had saved a number of infant lives and future health care costs by doing this screening. I'm pulling from the deeper recesses of my mind but I believe Multicare received an award for this work.

Screening children early will save lives, and I strongly encourage you and the entire board to support official rulemaking to add it to the newborn screening panel when the topic is considered at your August 13th meeting.

Thank you for your consideration, please let me know if you have any additional questions on this subject.

Rep. Laurie Jinkins

Sent from Windows Mail