

1 H.533

2 Introduced by Representatives Minier of South Burlington and Pouech of  
3 Hinesburg

4 Referred to Committee on

5 Date:

6 Subject: Health; public health; newborn screening program; congenital  
7 cytomegalovirus

8 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the  
9 Department of Health to amend its newborn screening rule to include  
10 congenital cytomegalovirus. It further proposes to create the Congenital  
11 Cytomegalovirus Advisory Committee.

12 An act relating to congenital cytomegalovirus

13 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

14 Sec. 1. RULEMAKING; NEWBORN SCREENING PROGRAM

15 The Department of Health shall amend its rule pertaining to the newborn  
16 screening program pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to include testing for  
17 congenital cytomegalovirus (cCMV). The Department shall further amend its  
18 rule to ensure information is distributed to expectant parents, hospitals,  
19 birthing centers, and health care providers offering prenatal, postnatal,

1       pediatric, and fertility counseling services about each of the diseases and  
2       conditions tested as part of the newborn screening program, including:  
3        (1) an overview of each disease or condition;  
4        (2) the incidence of each disease or condition;  
5        (3) transmission specifically of cytomegalovirus to pregnant women;  
6        (4) birth defects associated with each disease or condition;  
7        (5) testing and methods of diagnosis for each disease or condition;  
8        (6) any known preventative measures for a disease or condition; and  
9        (7) any other relevant resources.

10      Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 994 is added to read:

11      § 994. CONGENITAL CYTOMEGALOVIRUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
12        (a) Creation. There is created the Congenital Cytomegalovirus Advisory  
13       Committee to advise the Department and make recommendations regarding  
14       congenital cytomegalovirus.  
15        (b) Membership. The Advisory Committee shall be composed of the  
16       following members, who shall be appointed by the Commissioner of Health:  
17        (1) a representative of the Department, who shall serve as chair;  
18        (2) a representative of a hospital licensed in Vermont;  
19        (3) a primary care pediatrician or family practitioner licensed in  
20       Vermont;



1                   (4) propose public education campaign initiatives about diseases and  
2                   conditions for which newborns are screened, including specifically  
3                   cytomegalovirus.

4                   (d) Assistance. The Advisory Committee shall have the administrative,  
5                   technical, and legal assistance of the Department.

6                   (e) Report. Annually, on or before February 1, the Advisory Committee  
7                   shall submit a written report to the House Committee on Health Care and to the  
8                   Senate Committee on Health and Welfare with its findings and any  
9                   recommendations for legislative action.

10                   (f) Meetings.

11                   (1) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

12                   (2) Meetings shall be held not less than twice annually.

13                   (g) Compensation and reimbursement. For attendance at meetings during  
14                   adjournment of the General Assembly, a legislative member of the Advisory  
15                   Committee shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of  
16                   expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 23 for not more than four meetings annually.  
17                   These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the Department.

18                   Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

19                   This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.