
**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

TO: GOVERNOR MUSGROVE

FROM: FELICIA GAVIN

RE: HB 717 COMMENTS

DATE: APRIL 10, 2002

H. B. 717 amends Section 41-21-201 to include additional new born screening programs for infants besides the comprehensive screening programs that currently exist. The comprehensive newborn screening program will be designed to detect hypothyroidism, phenylketonuria (PKU), hemoglobinopathy, congenital adrenal hyperplasic, galactosemia and other conditions specified by the Health Department, upon the advice and recommendation of the American Academy of Pediatrics. The comprehensive newborn screening program shall be made available to all newborn infants with abnormal screening tests. The Health Department shall provide oversight of the program to determine the efficacy and cost effectiveness of screening newborn infants.

NOTE: This is a good program. Until the program is up and running, cost for operating the program cannot be determined. The big question is whether the program will be funded with general funds.

I recommend signing the bill.