

Legislative Analysis



AWARENESS AND SCREENING OF CYTOMEGALOVIRUS IN INFANTS

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4402 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Curt S. VanderWall
Committee: Health Policy
Complete to 9-9-25

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4402 would amend the Public Health Code to require newborn infants to be screened for cytomegalovirus (CMV).

CMV is a common virus that most people are exposed to during their lifetime. While it usually causes mild or no symptoms in healthy individuals, it can be transmitted from a pregnant mother to her baby and lead to serious complications such as hearing loss, developmental delays, or other health problems in infants.

Under current law, newborns must be screened for certain specified diseases and disorders, and any positive results must be reported to the infant's parent or guardian. These screenings do not require informed consent, and violations are punishable as misdemeanors.

The bill would add CMV to the list of required newborn screenings. Health professionals would have to report all positive CMV results not only to the infant's parent or guardian, but also to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

The bill would also direct the department to create and distribute educational materials about CMV to individuals who are pregnant or may become pregnant, new parents, and health care providers who work with expectant mothers or infants. These materials would have to meet specific content requirements, including information on CMV transmission, effects, prevention, testing, diagnosis, and available resources, and have an expert review and be updated as needed.

MCL 333.5431 and 333.5432 and proposed MCL 333.5143

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4402 would increase state expenditures for the Department of Health and Human Services by an indeterminate amount and have no fiscal impact on local units of government. Under the provisions of the bill, DHHS would be required to gather and disseminate information on cytomegalovirus including, but not limited to, transmission of the virus, methods of diagnosis, and testing locations. The department is also required to obtain an expert review of the educational materials. The fiscal impact of the bill would be dependent on the administrative cost of gathering, reviewing, and disseminating the information to the public.

The bill also could have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the state and on local units of government. A person who violates the section of the Public Health Code being amended by the bill would be guilty of a misdemeanor. For violations not specified otherwise, the penalty

is up to six months in jail, a fine of up to \$200, or both. New misdemeanor convictions could increase costs related to county jails and/or local misdemeanor probation supervision. The costs of local incarceration in a county jail and local misdemeanor probation supervision, and how those costs are financed, vary by jurisdiction. The fiscal impact on local court systems would depend on how provisions of the bill affect court caseloads and related administrative costs. Any increase in penal fine revenue would increase funding for public and county law libraries, which are the constitutionally designated recipients of those revenues.

Legislative Analyst: Leah R. Doemer
Fiscal Analysts: Sydney Brown
Robin Risko

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.