H-0747.1

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**HOUSE BILL 1285**

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**State of Washington 64th Legislature 2015 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Riccelli, G. Hunt, Van De Wege, Harris, Cody, Holy, Jinkins, Clibborn, Robinson, Walkinshaw, Peterson, Fitzgibbon, Ormsby, Bergquist, Tarleton, Farrell, Moeller, S. Hunt, Tharinger, Stanford, and Gregerson

AN ACT Relating to screening newborns for critical congenital heart disease; adding a new section to chapter 70.83 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  The legislature finds the following:

(1) Critical congenital heart disease is an abnormality in the structure or function of the heart that exists at birth, may cause life-threatening symptoms, and requires early medical intervention. Congenital heart disease is the most common cause of death in the first year of life. Outwardly healthy babies may be discharged from hospitals before signs of disease are detected.

(2) Pulse oximetry is a low-cost, noninvasive test that is effective at detecting congenital heart defects that otherwise would go undetected.

(3) Critical congenital heart disease was added to the national recommended uniform screening panel in 2011, and the majority of states have established a statewide screening for the disease.

(4) Requiring all hospitals and health care providers attending births to screen newborns for critical congenital heart disease has the potential to save newborn lives with early detection and treatment.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  A new section is added to chapter 70.83 RCW to read as follows:

(1) A hospital or a health care provider attending a birth outside of a hospital shall:

(a) Prior to discharge, perform critical congenital heart disease screening using pulse oximetry;

(b) Record the results of the critical congenital heart disease screening test in the newborn's medical record; and

(c) If the screening test indicates a suspicion of abnormality, refer the newborn for appropriate care and report the test results to the newborn's attending physician and parent, parents, or guardian.

(2) The state board of health may adopt rules to implement the requirements of this section.

(3) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(a) "Critical congenital heart disease" means an abnormality in the structure or function of the heart that exists at birth, causes severe, life-threatening symptoms, and requires medical intervention within the first year of life.

(b) "Newborn" means an infant born in any setting in the state of Washington.

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