S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

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I N A S S E M B L Y

March 20, 2012

Introduced by M. of A. ZEBROWSKI, BENEDETTO, CASTRO, COOK, DINOWITZ, GALEF, GUNTHER, LAVINE, MAISEL, REILLY, P. RIVERA, ROBINSON, SIMANOWITZ, WEPRIN -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. CROUCH, McKEVITT, SWEENEY -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to requiring hepatitis C virus testing of newborns

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section 2500-k to read as follows:

S 2500-K. HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV); TESTING OF NEWBORNS. 1. IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OUTCOMES OF NEWBORNS, AND TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO CARE AND TREATMENT FOR NEWBORNS INFECTED WITH OR EXPOSED TO HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV) AND THEIR MOTHERS, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ESTABLISH A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM FOR THE TESTING OF NEWBORNS FOR THE PRESENCE OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV) AND/OR THE PRESENCE OF ANTIBODIES TO SUCH VIRUS.

2. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PROMULGATE REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDING THE ADMINISTRATION OF TESTING, COUNSELING, TRACKING, DISCLOSURE OF TEST RESULTS PURSUANT TO SECTION TWENTY-SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY-TWO OF THIS CHAPTER, FOLLOW-UP REVIEWS, AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES RELATING TO SUCH TESTING.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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