

hearing screening of newborns available on and after July 1, 2000, notwithstanding any policy or benefit statement to the contrary.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Section 4 of this Act, this Act shall take effect October 1, 1999.

Approved April 27, 1999.

CHAPTER 128

(House Bill 884)

AN ACT concerning

Universal Newborn Hearing Screening

FOR the purpose of altering the Program for Hearing-Impaired Infants to include a certain universal newborn hearing screening component; altering the composition and responsibilities of the Advisory Council for the Program; requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to develop methods to contact certain persons regarding the results of certain screenings; requiring hospitals to provide certain information to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in a certain manner; requiring certain carriers to provide coverage for certain screenings provided by a hospital before discharge; requiring certain hospitals to establish a certain type of program; including certain screenings in the minimum package of child wellness services; defining a certain term; altering a certain definition; providing for the application of certain provisions of this Act on and after a certain date; providing for a delayed effective date for certain provisions of this Act; and generally relating to universal newborn hearing screening.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General

Section 4-208(a) and 13-601 through 13-604

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General

Section 19-705.1(c)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

BY repealing

Article - Health - General