

AN ACT

relating to mutual aid agreements for newborn screening laboratory services.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 12, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 12.01221 to read as follows:

Sec. 12.01221. MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT FOR NEWBORN SCREENING LABORATORY SERVICES. (a) In this section, "newborn screening laboratory services" means the performance of tests to analyze specimens collected as part of the newborn screenings performed under Subchapter B, Chapter 33.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 12.0122 or other law, the department may enter into a mutual aid agreement to provide newborn screening laboratory services to another state and to receive newborn screening laboratory services from another state in the event of an unexpected interruption of service, including an interruption caused by a disaster.

(c) Each mutual aid agreement under Subsection (b) shall include provisions:

(1) to address the confidentiality of the identity of the newborn child and the newborn child's family; and

(2) to ensure the return of blood specimens and related records to the state that received the newborn screening laboratory services.

1 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1671 was passed by the House on March 31, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 147, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1671 was passed by the Senate on May 12, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor