

Department of Planning and Budget

2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 387

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Comstock

3. Committee: Passed both Houses.

4. Title: Screening newborns for critical congenital heart defects

5. Summary: The amended bill requires the Board of Health to include in its regulations governing hospitals a requirement that every hospital implement a protocol for testing newborn infants for critical congenital heart defects, including performing pulse oximetry screening for newborn infants and providing appropriate follow-up and treatment for infants diagnosed with a critical congenital heart defect. Furthermore, the bill allows any infant whose parent or guardian objects based on religious practices to be excluded from such screening tests. The bill adds a second enactment clause authorizing the Board of Health to promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of this act to be effective within 280 days of its enactment. The bill adds a third enactment clause requiring the Board of Health shall convene a work group of health care providers and other stakeholders, to provide information and recommendations for the development of regulations to implement the provisions of this act.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final. See item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill would have a minimal impact on the Commonwealth. This bill requires hospitals to screen newborns for critical congenital heart defects. The agency has determined a minimal cost of staff resources associated with the development of these regulations and convening a workgroup, which can be absorbed in the agency's existing workload.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Health.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: SB183, introduced by Senator McWaters, is a companion bill.