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An act relating to newborn infant screening; authorizing formation of a study group under Children's Medical Services of the Department of Health; providing purpose; providing membership; requiring recommendations and a plan for expanding newborn infant screening requirements; requiring a report to the Legislature; providing an effective date.

A bill to be entitled

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Children's Medical Services of the Department of Health is authorized to convene a study group for the purpose of conducting comparative research regarding the expanded infant screening programs currently operating in other states and the use of tandem mass spectrometry in such programs. The study group shall consist of members of the Genetics and Infant Screening Advisory Council designated by the Secretary of Health and a representative from the Florida chapter of the March of Dimes and shall operate under the auspices of Children's Medical Services. Based on data available from the states operating expanded infant screening programs, the study group shall make recommendations regarding the expansion of the newborn infant screening requirements provided in s. 383.14, Florida Statutes, and shall develop an expanded newborn infant screening plan tailored to the needs of Florida's population. The study group's research shall be completed by August 1, 2002, and its recommendations and plan shall be submitted to the Legislature by September 1, 2002.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law. HOUSE SUMMARY Authorizes formation of a study group under Children's Medical Services of the Department of Health, made up of members of the Genetics and Infant Screening Advisory Council designated by the Secretary of Health and a representative from the Florida chapter of the March of Dimes, to research expanded newborn infant screening programs currently operating in other states. Requires the study group to complete its research by August 1, 2002, and submit a report to the Legislature, with recommendations and a plan for expanding newborn infant screening requirements in Florida, by September 1, 2002.