

By the Committee on Health Policy; and Senator Polsky

588-02771-26

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to education on congenital
cytomegalovirus; creating s. 383.142, F.S.; requiring
the Department of Health, in consultation with medical
experts identified by the department, to develop
educational materials on congenital cytomegalovirus
for distribution to expectant and new parents or
caregivers; providing requirements for such
educational materials; requiring certain hospitals,
birth centers, and obstetrics and gynecology physician
practices to provide the educational materials to such
parents and caregivers; requiring the department to
provide the educational materials to child care
facilities and other relevant entities; providing an
effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 383.142, Florida Statutes, is created to
read:

383.142 Education on congenital cytomegalovirus.—The
Department of Health, in consultation with medical experts
identified by the department, shall develop educational
materials on congenital cytomegalovirus to be distributed to
expectant and new parents or caregivers as part of any
maternity, prenatal, or newborn services or education provided
by hospitals, birth centers, or obstetrics and gynecology
physician practices in this state.

(1) The educational materials must include, but need not be

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30 limited to, an explanation of all of the following:

31 (a) The causes, symptoms, and effects of cytomegalovirus
32 infection and the ways it can be prevented. The materials must
33 emphasize the fact that the virus can spread from person to
34 person without detection and can be particularly dangerous if
35 transmitted from a pregnant woman to her child as congenital
36 cytomegalovirus.

37 (b) The manner in which congenital cytomegalovirus, if
38 contracted, can lead to neurological issues, such as seizures,
39 cerebral palsy, and developmental delays; sensory loss, such as
40 hearing and vision loss; physical problems, such as low birth
41 weight, jaundice, and enlarged liver and spleen; and, in severe
42 cases, pregnancy loss. The materials must emphasize the
43 importance of early testing for congenital cytomegalovirus in
44 newborns and infants to preserve their health and prevent
45 lifelong health complications.

46 (c) The screening requirements of s. 383.145.

47 (2) Each hospital, birth center, and obstetrics and
48 gynecology physician practice in this state providing maternity,
49 prenatal, or newborn services or education shall provide the
50 educational materials developed by the department under this
51 section to expectant or new parents or caregivers receiving such
52 services or education. The department shall provide the
53 educational materials to child care facilities and any other
54 entity deemed relevant by the department.

55 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.