

Kansas Newborn Screening Fund; SB 14

SB 14 amends a statute governing the Newborn Screening Program (Program) and certain newborn screening tests to establish a new fund and funding mechanism for the Program.

Specifically, the bill establishes the Kansas Newborn Screening Fund (Fund) in the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and creates a mechanism for depositing a portion of the privilege fees received by the State from Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) into the new Fund. All expenditures from the Fund must be used for the Program.

The bill requires the Director of Accounts and Reports, Division of Accounts and Reports, Department of Administration, to determine, on a monthly basis, the amount of receipts from HMOs' privilege fee collections and to transfer the amount necessary to fund the Newborn Screening Program for the preceding month as certified by the Secretary of Health and Environment, or designee. The transfer cannot exceed the amount credited to the State General Fund pursuant to KSA 40-3213.

KSA 2011 Supp. 40-3213 requires HMOs to pay, on an annual basis, a privilege fee in an amount equal to 1.0 percent per annum of the total of all premiums, subscription charges, or other similar charges made by the HMO to its enrollees. Under the prior law, the entire amount of the collected privilege fees was deposited into the State General Fund.