

**House File 2085 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2085

BY JENEARY

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to newborn screening for tongue tie and lip  
2 tie.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 135.133 Newborn screening — tongue  
2 tie and lip tie.

3 1. For the purposes of this section, unless the context  
4 otherwise requires:

5 a. "*Birth center*" means birth center as defined in section  
6 135.61.

7 b. "*Birthing hospital*" means a private or public hospital  
8 licensed pursuant to chapter 135B that has a licensed obstetric  
9 unit or is licensed to provide obstetric services.

10 2. a. A birthing hospital or birth center shall screen  
11 every newborn delivered in a birthing hospital or birth  
12 center for tongue tie and lip tie prior to discharge of  
13 the newborn from the birthing hospital or birth center. A  
14 birthing hospital or birth center that transfers a newborn for  
15 acute care prior to completion of the screening shall notify  
16 the receiving facility of the status of the screening. The  
17 receiving facility shall be responsible for completion of the  
18 screening.

19 b. The birthing hospital, birth center, or other facility  
20 completing the screening under this subsection shall report  
21 the results of the screening as well as information regarding  
22 treatment and treatment resources available to the parent or  
23 guardian of the newborn, and shall report the results of the  
24 screening to the primary care provider of the newborn upon  
25 discharge from the birthing hospital, birth center, or other  
26 facility. If the newborn was not tested prior to discharge,  
27 the birthing hospital, birth center, or other facility shall  
28 report the status of the screening to the primary care provider  
29 of the newborn.

30 c. If a newborn is delivered in a location other than  
31 a birthing hospital, birth center, or other facility, the  
32 physician or other health care professional who undertakes the  
33 pediatric care of the newborn shall ensure that the screening  
34 for tongue tie or lip tie is performed within three months of  
35 the date of the newborn's birth. The physician or other health

1 care professional shall report the results of the screening  
2 as well as information regarding treatment and treatment  
3 resources available to the parent or guardian of the newborn  
4 and shall report the results of the screening to the primary  
5 care provider of the newborn.

6 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 135B.18B **Newborn screening — tongue**  
7 **tie and lip tie.**

8 A birthing hospital as defined in section 135.131 shall  
9 comply with section 135.133 relating to newborn screening for  
10 tongue tie and lip tie.

11

EXPLANATION

12 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
13 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

14 This bill relates to newborn screening for tongue tie  
15 and lip tie. The bill requires a birthing hospital, birth  
16 center, or other facility to screen every newborn delivered  
17 in the birthing hospital or birth center, or transferred to  
18 another facility prior to completion of the screening, for  
19 tongue tie and lip tie prior to discharge of the newborn from  
20 the birthing hospital, birth center, or other facility. The  
21 birthing hospital, birth center, or other facility completing  
22 the screening shall report the results of the screening  
23 as well as information regarding treatment and treatment  
24 resources available to the parent or guardian of the newborn,  
25 and shall report the results of the screening to the primary  
26 care provider of the newborn upon discharge from the birthing  
27 hospital, birth center, or other facility. If the newborn  
28 was not tested prior to discharge, the birthing hospital,  
29 birth center, or other facility shall report the status of the  
30 screening to the primary care provider of the newborn. If  
31 a newborn is delivered in a location other than a birthing  
32 hospital, birth center, or other facility, the physician or  
33 other health care professional who undertakes the pediatric  
34 care of the newborn shall ensure that the screening for tongue  
35 tie or lip tie is performed within three months of the date

1 of the newborn's birth. The physician or other health care  
2 professional shall report the results of the screening as well  
3 as information regarding treatment and treatment resources  
4 available to the parent or guardian of the newborn and shall  
5 report the results of the screening to the primary care  
6 provider of the newborn.

7 Tongue tie, or ankyloglossia (AG), is a congenital condition  
8 in which an abnormally short frenulum restricts the tongue's  
9 ability to function properly. Lip tie is an unusually tight  
10 labial frenulum, which keeps the upper lip tethered to the gum  
11 line. In some infants, these conditions affect breast-feeding  
12 and cause other related issues.