

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

NYSAAP, District II, Chapters 1, 2 & 3



July 17, 2023

Memo of Support

G6PD Testing A.7338/S.6542

The New York State American Academy of Pediatrics, representing more than 5,000 pediatricians across the state strongly supports the Governor signing A.7338/S.6542 as soon as possible. New York birthing hospitals have been struggling with an unnecessarily complicated and painful procedure on newborn infants to meet current state requirements for G6PD testing. The original legislation did not recognize the difficulty it would create in meeting the mandate to separately test all newborns for this genetic abnormality. The new bill addresses the problems created by unrealistic and complicated regulations and the required implementation of complex protocols the currently plague all birthing hospitals across the state.

The new bill requires that G6PD screening be added as a new component of the existing Newborn Screen Panel. Adding G6PD screening to the Panel achieves equity and ensures all newborns in the state receive G6PD testing. Newborn Screening is well developed in New York State, and all birthing hospitals and pediatric offices already have systems in place to track abnormal results and ensure further testing and appropriate follow-up. Further, tandem mass spectrometry, the current technology used in New York, can perform screening on existing blood spots, eliminating the need for up an additional, sizeable blood draw.

We urge the Governor to sign this bill as soon as it reaches her desk. It will improve care for newborns and create a modern universal testing protocol for all New York newborns.

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