

12/14/87

26:2-143 to 26:2-147

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 26:2-143 to 26:2-147 (Rhesus hemolytic disease-- pregnant women-- require testing)

CHAPTER 166

Laws Of: 1987

Bill No: S600

Sponsor(s): Bassano

Date Introduced: Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly: Health and Human Services

Senate: Institutions, Health and Welfare

Amended during passage: Yes Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks.

Date of Passage: Assembly: January 8, 1987

Senate: February 27, 1986

Date of Approval: July 8, 1987

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes Attached: Senate amendments, adopted 4-30-87 (with statement)

Committee statement: Assembly Yes Senate Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

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SENATE, No. 600

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1986 SESSION

By Senator BASSANO

AN ACT concerning the determination of rhesus (Rh) hemolytic disease in the newborn.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. Every licensed physician or other licensed health professional  
2 engaged in the prenatal care of a pregnant woman or attending  
3 the woman at the time of delivery, miscarriage or abortion shall  
4 obtain or cause to be obtained a blood specimen of the woman prior  
5 to delivery or abortion or within 24 hours after delivery, miscar-  
6 riage or abortion.

1 2. The physician or licensed health professional shall submit  
2 the blood specimen to a licensed clinical laboratory or a laboratory  
3 approved by the State Department of Health for a determination  
4 of rhesus (Rh) blood type. The laboratory shall report the results  
5 to the physician or other person engaged in the prenatal care of  
6 the woman at the time of delivery, miscarriage or abortion.

1 3. If the test results indicate the woman is Rh negative, within  
2 \***[24]**\* \*\***[\*72\*]**\*\* *48 hours of delivery, miscarriage or abortion*  
3 *and no more than 24*\*\* hours of receipt of the results the physician  
4 or licensed health professional who was engaged in the prenatal  
5 care of the woman shall advise the woman of the significance of the  
6 results and the availability of preventative treatment.

1 4. The provisions of this act shall not apply if the physician or  
2 other licensed health professional engaged in the prenatal care of  
3 a pregnant woman or attending the woman at time of delivery,  
4 miscarriage or abortion knows the pregnant woman's rhesus blood

**EXPLANATION**—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill  
is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.  
Matter printed in italics *thus* is new matter.

**Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:**

\*—Assembly committee amendment adopted December 8, 1986.

\*\*—Senate amendment adopted April 30, 1987.

5 type and accepts responsibility for the accuracy of the information.

1 5. The provisions of this act shall not apply if the pregnant  
2 woman objects to the test.

1 6. This act shall take effect 60 days after enactment.

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HEALTH—GENERAL

Requires testing of pregnant women for rhesus hemolytic (Rh) disease.

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# SENATE, No. 600

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel  
PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1986 SESSION

By Senator BASSANO

# SENATE, No. 1721

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 14, 1984

By Senator BASSANO

Referred to Committee on Institutions, Health and Welfare

AN ACT concerning the determination of rhesus (Rh) hemolytic  
disease in the newborn.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. Every licensed physician or other licensed health professional  
2 engaged in the prenatal care of a pregnant woman or attending  
3 the woman at the time of delivery, miscarriage or abortion shall  
4 obtain or cause to be obtained a blood specimen of the woman prior  
5 to delivery or abortion or within 24 hours after delivery, miscar-  
6 riage or abortion.

1 2. The physician or licensed health professional shall submit  
2 the blood specimen to a licensed clinical laboratory or a laboratory  
3 approved by the State Department of Health for a determination  
4 of rhesus (Rh) blood type. The laboratory shall report the results  
5 to the physician or other person engaged in the prenatal care of  
6 the woman at the time of delivery, miscarriage or abortion.

1 3. If the test results indicate the woman is Rh negative, within  
2 24 hours of receipt of the results the physician or licensed health  
3 professional who was engaged in the prenatal care of the woman  
4 shall advise the woman of the significance of the results and the  
5 availability of preventative treatment.

1 4. The provisions of this act shall not apply if the physician or  
2 other licensed health professional engaged in the prenatal care of  
3 a pregnant woman or attending the woman at time of delivery,  
4 miscarriage or abortion knows the pregnant woman's rhesus blood

5 type and accepts responsibility for the accuracy of the information.

1 5. The provisions of this act shall not apply if the pregnant  
2 woman objects to the test.

1 6. This act shall take effect 60 days after enactment.

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#### STATEMENT

This bill requires a pregnant woman's attending physician or licensed health professional to take a blood specimen from the woman prior to termination of pregnancy or within 24 hours of termination of the pregnancy. The specimen shall be analyzed to determine the woman's rhesus (Rh) blood type and the results of the tests reported to the physician. If the results indicate the woman's blood type is Rh negative, the physician or attending health professional shall inform the woman of the significance of the results and the availability of treatment within 24 hours of receipt of the results. The requirements of the bill will not apply if the physician already knows the woman's Rh type or if the woman objects to the test.

The bill is designed to help prevent the occurrence of rhesus (Rh) hemolytic disease of the fetus and newborn due to Rh iso-immunization or sensitization. A mother who is Rh negative may become sensitized by proteins from a Rh positive baby if the proteins find their way into circulation before or during childbirth. During a later pregnancy the mother's antibodies may pass from her blood into the blood of this second or third infant and thereby cause destruction of red cells. This results in a condition called erythroblastosis fetalis. The child may be born dead (stillborn) or with Rh Hemolytic disease (acute anemia). Rh disease can be avoided by an injection of Rho (D) Immune Globulin (Human) to the Rh negative mother within 72 hours following delivery, miscarriage or abortion.

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ASSEMBLY HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 600**

with Assembly committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 8, 1986

The Assembly Health and Human Resources Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 600 with committee amendments.

As amended by the committee, this bill requires that a pregnant woman's attending physician or licensed health care professional take a blood sample from the woman prior to the termination of her pregnancy, or within 24 hours after termination of the pregnancy, for the purpose of determining the woman's rhesus (Rh) blood type, except in those cases where the physician or other health care professional knows the woman's Rh blood type or where the woman objects to the blood test. The physician or other health care professional is required to submit the blood specimen to a licensed clinical laboratory or a laboratory approved by the Department of Health for analysis of the specimen. The amended bill provides that the laboratory shall report the results to the physician or other health care professional who, if the results indicate the woman is Rh negative, shall notify the woman within 72 hours after receiving the results, and shall advise her as to the significance of the results and the availability of treatment.

The committee amended the bill to change the time frame in which the physician or other health care professional is required to notify the woman of the results of her Rh blood type analysis from 24 to 72 hours after receipt of the test results.

SENATE INSTITUTIONS, HEALTH AND WELFARE  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 600**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JANUARY 30, 1986

The Senate Institutions, Health and Welfare Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 600.

This bill requires a pregnant women's attending physician or licensed health professional to take a blood specimen from the woman prior to the termination of a pregnancy or within 24 hours of termination of the pregnancy. The physician or health professional shall submit the specimen to an approved laboratory for analysis of the woman's rhesus (Rh) blood type. If the results indicate the woman's blood type is Rh negative, the physician or attending health professional shall inform the woman of the significance of the results and the availability of treatment, within 24 hours of receipt of the results. The requirements of the bill will not apply if the physician already knows the woman's Rh type or if the woman objects to the test.

This bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 1721 of 1984. The committee favorably reported Senate Bill No. 1721 in October 1984.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 1986-87 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review which has been performed.

TK H50068

Senate Floor Amendments

Senate Bill No. 600 <sup>AR</sup> <sub>Act</sub>

Amend:

By Senator Bassano

Concurring in Assembly Amendments

By Amendments of Senator Bassano

Delete "72" Insert "48 hours of delivery, miscarriage or abortion and no more than 24"

**ADOPTED**

**APR 30 1987**

| Page | Sec. | Line |
|------|------|------|
| 1    | 3    | 2    |

STATEMENT

According to the DOH, there should be no more than 72 hours between the time of delivery, miscarriage or abortion and the administration of preventative treatment. The current version of this bill provides for a lapse of up to 96 hours between the time of delivery, miscarriage or abortion and the time a woman must be notified of the test results. This amendment requires the physician or licensed health professional to notify a woman if the test results indicate that she is Rh negative within 48 hours of delivery, miscarriage or abortion. This allows 24 hours for the women to seek preventative treatment.