CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.6, the following is a concise explanatory statement:

AGENCY: Rhode Island Department of Health

DIVISION: N/A

RULE IDENTIFIER: 216-RICR-20-05-1

RULE TITLE: Newborn Metabolic, Endocrine, Hemoglobin, and other Disorders Screening Program and Newborn Hearing Impairment Screening Program

REASON FOR RULEMAKING: RIDOH proposed the following amendments to these regulations:

- Adding 'Mucopolysaccharidosis Type II (MPS-II)' and 'Guanidinoacetate-Methyltransferase (GAMT) Deficiency' to the required testing types. These tests were added to the federal Recommended Uniform Screening Panel and are required to be added to these regulations under state statute;
- Renaming the regulation and the testing types within the regulation to be consistent with federal regulations;
- Changing “hearing loss” to “hearing impairment” to be consistent with Rhode Island statute;
- Removing “and/or midwife” and adding “If a physician is not present at the birth of a newborn, a midwife may cause said child to be subject to screening tests for the conditions listed below;” and,
- Removing “These fees shall be adjusted annually to cover the cost of inflation using the Medicare Economic Index (MEI),” to address the fact that this practice is no longer used by RIDOH and the process for calculating fees was added to 216- RICR-10-05-2.

ANY FINDINGS REQUIRED BY LAW AS A PREEQUISITE TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE RULE: N/A

TESTIMONY AND COMMENTS: RIDOH did not receive any comments on the proposed amendments.

CHANGES TO THE TEXT OF THE RULE: No changes were made to the text of the regulations after the public comment period.

REGULATORY ANALYSIS:

In development of this rule, consideration was given to:

1) Alternative approaches;

2) Overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and

3) Significant economic impact on small business

No alternative approach, duplication or overlap was identified based on available information. RIDOH has determined that the benefits of the rule justify its costs.