



# Newborn Screening

(SB 145 / AB 206)



Bill Summary



Newborn screening (NBS) is a public health program that tests babies 24-48 hours after birth for serious or fatal conditions. This simple heel-prick test allows for **early detection** of rare genetic disorders before symptoms appear. About 125-140 Wisconsin babies are currently identified through NBS each year. Early intervention is **crucial to prevent severe complications, disability, or even death.**

## WHY EARLY DETECTION MATTERS

- **Saves Lives:** Many of these conditions have no immediate symptoms but can cause irreversible health problems or death if not treated quickly.
- **Prevents Delays:** The average rare disease diagnosis takes over six years. Early screening prevents these delays, saving families from significant financial and emotional burdens.
- **Enables Treatment:** For many conditions, advanced treatments or gene therapy must be administered in infancy to be effective.

## WHAT IS THIS BILL ABOUT?

This bill (SB 145 / AB 206) aims to modernize Wisconsin's newborn screening program by creating a structured process to align state screenings with the federal Recommended Uniform Screening Panel (RUSP). Currently, Wisconsin screens for 50 of the 60+ conditions on the RUSP.

By adopting this legislation, the state can more efficiently add new conditions, helping **babies diagnosed** with a rare disease get the **timely treatment** they need. Twelve other states have already passed similar laws.

***Please co-sponsor and  
bring this bill to a vote!***

## SPONSORS AND CO-SPONSORS OF LEGISLATION

as of 9-8-2025

### Senators

- John Jagler - R
- Dan Feyen - R
- Kristin Dassler-Alfheim - D
- Jesse James - R
- LaTonya Johnson - D
- Mark Spreitzer - D
- Patrick Testin - R
- Jamie Wall - D

### Representatives

- Barbara Dittrich - R
- Cindi Duchow - R
- Deb Andraca - D
- Dan Knodl - R
- David Murphy - R
- Jeffrey Mursau - R
- Christine Sinicki - D
- Shelia Stubbs - D
- Lisa Subeck - D

