

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, newborn screening touches nearly every baby born in the state of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, by screening newborns at birth, early detection of serious and sometimes life-threatening conditions can occur; and

WHEREAS, it is important for all babies to have access to early intervention and treatment; and

WHEREAS, in 2013 there were 224 babies who were confirmed as having one of the conditions detected through the Newborn Blood Spot Program and 94 babies were identified as deaf or hard of hearing through the Newborn Hearing Screening Program; and

WHEREAS, Missouri screens newborns for over 70 conditions and screens for 30 of 31 universal screening conditions as recommended by the Discretionary Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children and endorsed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services; and

WHEREAS, Missouri is among the nation's leading states in the number of conditions for which newborns are screened; and

WHEREAS, health-care providers promote the healthy lives of newborns by providing this critical service at birth; and

WHEREAS, newborn screening, detection and early intervention saves babies' lives; and

WHEREAS, early treatment helps babies to grow and to develop as healthy as possible; and

WHEREAS, early intervention prevents delays in speech and language development; and

WHEREAS, newborn screening in Missouri first became law on July 15, 1965.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, (NAME) do hereby proclaim July 15, 2015 to be the

50th ANNIVERSARY OF NEWBORN SCREENING IN THE STATE OF MISSOURI