

# Newborn Screening Refusal Form

The American Academy of Pediatrics and the Alabama Department of Public Health strongly recommend Newborn Screening for all infants.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Delivery Hospital: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

My child's medical provider \_\_\_\_\_ has advised me that my child (named above) should participate in the newborn screening program.

☐ As the parent or legal guardian of my child (named above), I choose to decline participation in my state's newborn screening program, on the grounds that such tests conflict with my religious tenets and/or practices (as allowed by the Code of Alabama 1975, 22-20-3).

I have been provided information about newborn screening in my state and the importance of early identification of the disorders. I have had the opportunity to discuss these with my child's medical provider, who has answered my questions regarding the recommended screening. I understand the following:

- The purpose and need for newborn screening to include bloodspot screening, hearing screening, and pulse oximetry screening.
- The risks and benefits of newborn screening.
- **If my child does not participate in newborn screening, the consequences of a late diagnosis may include delayed development, mental retardation, or death.**
- My child's medical provider, the Alabama Department of Public Health, and the American Academy of Pediatrics strongly recommend that all newborns be screened for certain disorders.
- If my child has one of my state's screened conditions, failure to participate in newborn screening may endanger the health or life of my child.

Nevertheless, I have decided at this time to decline participation in the newborn screening program for my child as indicated by checking the box above.

I acknowledge that I have read this document or it has been read to me in its entirety, and I fully understand it.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I have had the opportunity to discuss my decision not to participate in my state's newborn screening program and still decline the recommended participation.