

13 March 2026

The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk
Chair, House Health, and Government Operations Committee
Room 241, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject – HB1625 - Health - Public Health - Newborn Screening Program - Fees and Core Conditions

My name is Brian Stone and I am the uncle of Lillian Grace Smith who suffers from Krabbe disease. I am writing in strong opposition to HB1625 - Public Health - Newborn Screening Program - Fees and Core Conditions. HB096 was passed 2 years ago and part of the need of this bill was the lack of progress being made by the Advisory Council on Hereditary and Congenital Disorders. The Recommended Uniform Screening Panel (RUSP) is light years ahead of recommendations on diseases like Krabbe that was added to the list of diseases on in 2024. The Advisory Council providing recommendations regarding whether testing should be implemented is nonsense. It's law! As covered by HB096. All newborns are to be tested for all diseases covered by RUSP. Having the Advisory Council provide advice only slows things down and risks the livelihood of Maryland newborns. Thank you for hearing my opposition. I am available for further discussion if it would help stop this legislation.

Sincerely,

Brian Stone
23109 Hayden Court
Lexington Park, MD 20653