



Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill: Senate Bill 495 - Health – Newborn Screening Program – Gaucher Disease

Hearing Date: February 18, 2026

Position: Support

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) supports *Senate Bill 495 – Health Newborn Screening Program – Gaucher Disease*. Gaucher disease is a rare hereditary disorder where the buildup of fatty substances impacts the functioning of the liver and spleen and cause bone pain.ⁱ We support adding Gaucher disease to the list of required screenings for newborns, as early diagnosis and prompt initiation of therapy can improve the clinical outcomes.ⁱⁱ

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.

ⁱ <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/gauchers-disease/symptoms-causes/syc-20355546>

ⁱⁱ <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC12101256/>