

HUNTINGTON MEDICAL FOUNDATION

An affiliate of Southern California Healthcare Systems

DESCANSO PEDIATRICS

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Florida State Legislature
Tallahassee, Florida

Re: House Bill 1117
Senate Bill 2062

Dear Sirs and Madams:

My name is Laura Mabie and I am a general pediatrician located just outside Los Angeles, California. My office has been doing a dilated eye exam on all of our 6-to 8 week old infants for the last eight years. My medical assistants place the dilating drops into the infant's eyes while the baby is being weighed. The physician then proceeds with the regular exam, and does the ophthalmoscopic exam at the end. The "extra" exam takes less than ten seconds. The babies suffer no side effects. They are not held down in any way. Often the exam is done with the baby in its mother's arms.

This exam is simple, easy, cheap, and very cost-effective. While I have never diagnosed a case of retinoblastoma, I have picked up three cases of congenital cataracts that needed to be treated immediately.

I would urge your support of the above mentioned bills. This could easily save the sight, if not the lives, of hundreds of Florida's children.

Sincerely,

Laura Mabie MD

Laura E. Mabie, M.D. FAAP