

Amendment: D7

Representative HEWITT proposes the following amendment:

Section 31 Department of Public Health

New:

31.bbvs. (DPH: Blood Borne Virus Screening) Of the funds appropriated for Critical Public Health Services, the South Carolina Department of Public Health, in collaboration with the Frontlines of Communities in the United States (FOCUS) Initiative and the South Carolina Hospital Association, shall allocate up to \$200,000 to continue screening, diagnosis, and linkage to care for blood borne viruses through routine screening services in hospital emergency departments. The funds should be used to reduce transmission rates for South Carolinians by improving the early identification of undiagnosed infections, supporting the identification of individuals living with blood borne viruses who were previously diagnosed but are not participating in care, and providing linkage to care for individuals who would benefit from blood borne virus management or participating in preventative services.