



Newborn screening is mandated by Texas law. Refusal is only legally permissible if the screening conflicts with the parent's/legal guardian's/managing conservator's religious tenets or practices.  
Health & Safety Code Sec. 33.012

## RELIGIOUS OBJECTION TO NEWBORN SCREENING TEST

I/We, \_\_\_\_\_  
Print parent/managing conservator/guardian full Name

am/are the parent(s)/managing conservator/legal guardian

of, \_\_\_\_\_, born on \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
(child's name) Month Day Year

- I/We have had fully explained to me/us the medical benefits of the newborn screening blood test as mandated for all newborns in the State of Texas by Texas Health & Safety Code Chapter 33.
- I/We have been informed and understand that the only legally permissible reason for refusing to have my/our child screened is because the newborn screening blood test conflicts with my/our religious tenets or practices.
- I/We have been informed and understand that this screening is done to detect certain disorders where symptoms sometimes do not appear for several weeks or months, and irreversible damage can occur before symptoms become apparent to a family or a physician.
- I/We understand that failure to detect and treat the screened conditions within the first few days or weeks of life can be life threatening or cause significant handicaps.

Pursuant to the provisions of Health & Safety Code Sec. 33.012, I hereby decline to have the test performed on \_\_\_\_\_ based on my assertion that  
(child's name)

the test conflicts with the religious tenets or practices of an organized religion of which myself/we and my/our child are adherents.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(parent, managing conservator, guardian)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(witness)

***A signed statement (such as this completed form) must be included in the child's medical records if the parents/ managing conservator/guardian refuse to permit the newborn screening to take place. HSC Sec. 33.012(b)***