

**HB 3196 - DIGEST**

Finds that sickle cell disease is a lifelong hereditary red blood cell disorder that predominantly affects African-Americans, and that Washington state screens newborn infants for sickle cell disease at birth but that this information is not adequately communicated between people who may not have the disease, but carry the genetic trait for it.

Creates the joint select committee on sickle cell disease.

Provides that the committee shall review current practices for screening, diagnosis, treatment, and education about sickle cell disease in Washington state, and also review issues related to access to appropriate treatment, dissemination of information related to the disease and family risk, insurance coverage for treatment, and morbidity and mortality rates.

Declares that the committee shall make recommendations to the legislature by December 1, 2008.