



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 531

February Session, 2000

Substitute House Bill No. 5288

House of Representatives, April 11, 2000

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. DYSON of the 94th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

An Act Concerning The Chronic Fatigue And Immune Dysfunction Syndrome Outreach Programs And Establishing A Meningitis Vaccination Education Program.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) The Commissioner of Public Health shall
2 implement, within available appropriations, a meningitis vaccination
3 education program. The program shall include furnishing public and
4 private colleges and universities in this state with information and
5 materials for distribution to incoming students concerning the
6 advisability of being vaccinated against meningitis.

7 Sec. 2. The Commissioner of Public Health shall implement, within
8 available appropriations, the state-wide informational outreach
9 programs on chronic fatigue and immune dysfunction syndrome
10 established pursuant to section 19a-6a of the general statutes.

11 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

PH Committee Vote: Yea 25 Nay 0 JF C/R APP
APP Committee Vote: Yea 47 Nay 0 JFS

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: Cost

Affected Agencies: Department of Public Health

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

State Impact:

Section 1 requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to implement a meningitis vaccination education program, to include furnishing colleges and universities with information and materials for distribution to incoming students. The department will incur an FY 01 cost of approximately \$90,000 to purchase and distribute educational materials to each of an estimated 45,000 incoming students and their parents/guardians. No funding has been included within either the House or Senate versions of the FY 01 Revised Appropriations Act for this purpose.

Section 2 requires the DPH to implement statewide informational outreach programs on chronic fatigue and immune dysfunction syndrome (CFIDS). The department will incur an FY 01 cost of approximately \$80,000 to support educational conferences, distribution of training materials to health care providers and other outreach efforts necessary to comply with this mandate. No funding has been included within either the House or Senate versions of the FY 01

Revised Appropriations Act for this purpose.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5288

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CHRONIC FATIGUE AND IMMUNE DYSFUNCTION SYNDROME OUTREACH PROGRAMS AND ESTABLISHING A MENINGITIS VACCINATION EDUCATION PROGRAM.**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to implement (1) the statewide medical and patient education and public awareness programs about chronic fatigue and immune dysfunction syndrome the law already requires it to implement and (2) a meningitis vaccination education program. The meningitis program must provide public and private colleges and universities in the state with materials to give to incoming students on the advisability of vaccination. DPH must implement both programs within its available appropriations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2000

BACKGROUND***Meningitis***

Meningococcal disease, most commonly expressed as meningococcal meningitis, an inflammation of the membranes around the brain and spinal cord, or meningococemia, bacteria in the blood, strikes about 3,000 Americans each year, leading to death in 10% to 15% of the cases. An estimated 100 to 125 cases of meningococcal disease occur annually on college campuses and 5 to 15 students die as a result. The disease can also lead to permanent brain damage, hearing loss, learning disability, and kidney failure.

The American College Health Association recommended in 1997 that students consider vaccination and that college health care personnel provide them with information about the disease and vaccination and access to vaccine. In late 1999, the U.S. Centers of Disease Control's

Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices made a similar recommendation for freshmen who planned to live in dormitories.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference
Yea 25 Nay 0

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 47 Nay 0