



General Assembly

January Session, 2017

Raised Bill No. 7059

LCO No. 3967



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:
(KID)

AN ACT CONCERNING IMMUNIZATION EDUCATION.

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-204a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

3 (a) Each local or regional board of education, or similar body
4 governing a nonpublic school or schools, shall require each child to be
5 protected by adequate immunization against diphtheria, pertussis,
6 tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, hemophilus
7 influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by the schedule for
8 active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f before being
9 permitted to enroll in any program operated by a public or nonpublic
10 school under its jurisdiction. Before being permitted to enter seventh
11 grade, a child shall receive a second immunization against measles.
12 Any such child who (1) presents a certificate from a physician,
13 physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse or local health
14 agency stating that initial immunizations have been given to such child
15 and additional immunizations are in process under guidelines and
16 schedules specified by the Commissioner of Public Health; or (2)

17 presents a certificate from a physician, physician assistant or advanced
18 practice registered nurse stating that in the opinion of such physician,
19 physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse such
20 immunization is medically contraindicated because of the physical
21 condition of such child; or (3) presents a statement from the parents or
22 guardian of such child affirming that such immunization would be
23 contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian
24 of such child, and that the parents or guardian of such child
25 participated in the immunization education program administered by
26 the Department of Public Health pursuant to subsection (b) of this
27 section, which statement shall be acknowledged, in accordance with
28 the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by (A) a judge of a court
29 of record or a family support magistrate, (B) a clerk or deputy clerk of
30 a court having a seal, (C) a town clerk, (D) a notary public, (E) a justice
31 of the peace, (F) an attorney admitted to the bar of this state, or (G)
32 notwithstanding any provision of chapter 6, a school nurse; or (4) in
33 the case of measles, mumps or rubella, presents a certificate from a
34 physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse or
35 from the director of health in such child's present or previous town of
36 residence, stating that the child has had a confirmed case of such
37 disease; or (5) in the case of hemophilus influenzae type B has passed
38 his fifth birthday; or (6) in the case of pertussis, has passed his sixth
39 birthday, shall be exempt from the appropriate provisions of this
40 section. If the parents or guardians of any child are unable to pay for
41 such immunizations, the expense of such immunizations shall, on the
42 recommendations of such board of education, be paid by the town.
43 Before being permitted to enter seventh grade, the parents or guardian
44 of any child who is exempt on religious grounds from the
45 immunization requirements of this section, pursuant to subdivision (3)
46 of this subsection, shall present to such school a statement that such
47 immunization requirements are contrary to the religious beliefs of such
48 child or the parents or guardian of such child, which statement shall be
49 acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34
50 and 1-35, by (A) a judge of a court of record or a family support

51 magistrate, (B) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (C) a
52 town clerk, (D) a notary public, (E) a justice of the peace, (F) an
53 attorney admitted to the bar of this state, or (G) notwithstanding any
54 provision of chapter 6, a school nurse.

55 (b) The Department of Public Health shall, within available
56 appropriations, establish an immunization education program,
57 consisting of an audio-visual presentation demonstrating the safety
58 and efficacy of immunization and including information relating to,
59 but not limited to, the scientific theory of herd immunity. Such
60 program shall be made publically available on said department's
61 Internet web site.

62 [(b)] (c) The definitions of adequate immunization shall reflect the
63 schedule for active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f
64 and be established by regulation adopted in accordance with the
65 provisions of chapter 54 by the Commissioner of Public Health, who
66 shall also be responsible for providing procedures under which said
67 boards and said similar governing bodies shall collect and report
68 immunization data on each child to the Department of Public Health
69 for compilation and analysis by said department.

70 [(c)] (d) The Commissioner of Public Health may issue a temporary
71 waiver to the schedule for active immunization for any vaccine if the
72 National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recognizes a
73 nation-wide shortage of supply for such vaccine.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	10-204a

Statement of Purpose:

To require the parents or guardian of a child claiming a religious exemption from immunization to affirm that such parents or guardian participated in an immunization education program administered by the Department of Public Health.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]