AN ACT PROHIBITING THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PARENTAL STATEMENTS CONCERNING RELIGIOUS OBJECTIONS TO VACCINATION BY SCHOOL NURSES AND PERMITTING MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY TO ACKNOWLEDGE SUCH STATEMENTS.

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

Section 1. Section 10-204a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2019):

(a) Each local or regional board of education, or similar body governing a nonpublic school or schools, shall require each child to be protected by adequate immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, hemophilus influenzae type B and any other vaccine required by the schedule for active immunization adopted pursuant to section 19a-7f before being permitted to enroll in any program operated by a public or nonpublic school under its jurisdiction. Before being permitted to enter seventh grade, a child shall receive a second immunization against measles. Any such child who (1) presents a certificate from a physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse or local health
agency stating that initial immunizations have been given to such child
and additional immunizations are in process under guidelines and
schedules specified by the Commissioner of Public Health; or (2)
presents a certificate from a physician, physician assistant or advanced
practice registered nurse stating that in the opinion of such physician,
physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse such
immunization is medically contraindicated because of the physical
condition of such child; or (3) presents a statement from the parents or
guardian of such child that such immunization would be contrary to
the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such
child, which statement shall be acknowledged, in accordance with the
provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34 and 1-35, by (A) a judge of a court of
record or a family support magistrate, (B) a clerk or deputy clerk of a
court having a seal, (C) a town clerk, (D) a notary public, (E) a justice of
the peace, (F) an attorney admitted to the bar of this state, or (G)
[notwithstanding any provision of chapter 6, a school nurse] an
ordained, commissioned or licensed member of the clergy; or (4) in the
case of measles, mumps or rubella, presents a certificate from a
physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse or
from the director of health in such child's present or previous town of
residence, stating that the child has had a confirmed case of such
disease; or (5) in the case of hemophilus influenzae type B has passed
his fifth birthday; or (6) in the case of pertussis, has passed his sixth
birthday, shall be exempt from the appropriate provisions of this
section. If the parents or guardians of any child are unable to pay for
such immunizations, the expense of such immunizations shall, on the
recommendations of such board of education, be paid by the town.
Before being permitted to enter seventh grade, the parents or guardian
of any child who is exempt on religious grounds from the
immunization requirements of this section, pursuant to subdivision (3)
of this subsection, shall present to such school a statement that such
immunization requirements are contrary to the religious beliefs of such
child or the parents or guardian of such child, which statement shall be
acknowledged, in accordance with the provisions of sections 1-32, 1-34
and 1-35, by (A) a judge of a court of record or a family support
magistrate, (B) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, (C) a
town clerk, (D) a notary public, (E) a justice of the peace, (F) an
attorney admitted to the bar of this state, or (G) [notwithstanding any
provision of chapter 6, a school nurse] an ordained, commissioned or
licensed member of the clergy.

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

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

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:

| Section 1 | July 1, 2019 | 10-204a |

**Statement of Purpose:**
To permit ordained, commissioned and licensed members of the clergy
to acknowledge parental statements concerning religious objections to
vaccinations required for enrollment in public and nonpublic schools
under the jurisdiction of local and regional boards of education, and to
prohibit school nurses from acknowledging such statements.

[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.]