



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

**Raised Bill No. 7005**

LCO No. 3442



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:  
(KID)

**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:

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 Section 10-204a of the general statutes is repealed and the  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

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

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

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

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

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	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.]*