



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2022

LCO No. 4766



Offered by:

SEN. SOMERS, 18<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. SAMPSON, 16<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 457

File No. 322

Cal. No. 241

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CONNECTICUT'S IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION SYSTEM."**

1 Strike section 1 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:

2 "Section 1. Section 19a-7h of the general statutes is repealed and the  
3 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2022*):

4 (a) As used in this section, "health care provider" means a person who  
5 has direct or supervisory responsibility for the administration of a  
6 vaccine or assessment of immunization status, including a physician or  
7 physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 370, a nurse-midwife  
8 licensed pursuant to chapter 377, an advanced practice registered nurse  
9 or registered nurse licensed pursuant to chapter 378, a pharmacist  
10 licensed pursuant to chapter 400j, or an individual authorized under the  
11 general statutes or federal law to administer a vaccine.

12 [(a)] (b) The Commissioner of Public Health or [his] the  
13 commissioner's designee [may, within the limitations of available

14 resources,] shall establish and maintain an immunization information  
15 system for the purpose of assuring [timely childhood] vaccine  
16 recipient's access to their immunization [an ongoing registry of all  
17 children who have not begun the first grade of school including all  
18 newborns] records. The [registry] immunization information system  
19 shall include such information as is necessary to accurately identify a  
20 [child] vaccine recipient and to assess such recipient's current  
21 immunization status.

22 [(b)] (c) [For purposes of this section, "health care provider" means a  
23 person who has direct or supervisory responsibility for the delivery of  
24 immunization including licensed physicians, nurse practitioners, nurse  
25 midwives, physician assistants and nurses.] Each health care provider  
26 who has [provided health care] administered a vaccine to a [child listed  
27 in the registry] person in the state shall report, [to] in a form and manner  
28 prescribed by the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee,  
29 [sufficient information to identify the child and] information, which  
30 shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) the name and date of birth  
31 of the vaccine recipient, (2) the name and date of each vaccine dose given  
32 to [that child or] the vaccine recipient, (3) any other information deemed  
33 necessary by the commissioner, and (4) when appropriate,  
34 contraindications or exemptions to administration of each vaccine dose.  
35 [Reports shall be made by such means determined by the commissioner  
36 to result in timely reporting.] Each health care provider shall obtain  
37 consent, in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of  
38 Public Health, from a vaccine recipient, a vaccine recipient's court-  
39 appointed guardian or conservator, if applicable, or, in the case of a  
40 child who received a vaccine, such child's parent or guardian before  
41 such provider reports any information concerning such vaccine  
42 recipient or such child to the immunization information system  
43 pursuant to this subsection.

44 (d) Each health care provider intending to administer vaccines to any  
45 [child listed on the registry and each parent or guardian of such child  
46 shall be provided] person may use the immunization information  
47 system to determine current information [as contained in the registry]

48 on the immunization status of [the child] such person for the purposes  
49 of determining whether [additional doses of recommended routine  
50 childhood immunizations are needed] such person requires  
51 immunizations, or to officially document immunization status to meet  
52 state [day] child care, [or] school or higher education immunization  
53 entry requirements pursuant to sections 10-204a, 10a-155, 19a-79 and  
54 19a-87b and regulations adopted thereunder.

55 (e) Each [director of health of any town, city or health district and  
56 each] school nurse who is required to verify the immunization status for  
57 children enrolled in prekindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, at a  
58 public or private school in any town, city or school district pursuant to  
59 section 10-204a shall be provided with sufficient information on the  
60 children who live in [his or her] the school nurse's jurisdiction and who  
61 are listed on the [registry] immunization information system to enable  
62 determination of which children are overdue for scheduled  
63 immunizations and to enable provision of outreach to assist in getting  
64 each such child vaccinated.

65 (f) The commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, shall provide  
66 the director of health of any municipality or health district with  
67 sufficient information on the persons who live in such director's  
68 jurisdiction and who are listed on the immunization information system  
69 in order to address undervaccinated communities and improve health  
70 equity.

71 (g) The commissioner may use the information in the immunization  
72 information system for the purposes set forth in sections 19a-25 and 19a-  
73 215 and the regulations promulgated pursuant to said sections. The  
74 commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, may exchange  
75 information in the immunization information system with federal  
76 agencies providing health care services and other states' immunization  
77 information systems for the purposes described in this section.

78 (h) The commissioner shall provide to a vaccine recipient, a vaccine  
79 recipient's court-appointed guardian or conservator, if applicable, or, in

80 the case of a child who received a vaccine, such child's parent or  
81 guardian access to any information that was provided by a health care  
82 provider to the Department of Public Health through the immunization  
83 information system regarding such person's vaccination status upon  
84 request by such recipient, guardian, conservator, parent or guardian.

85 [(c)] (i) Except as specified in subsections [(a) and] (b) to (h), inclusive,  
86 of this section, all personal information including vaccination status and  
87 dates of vaccination of [individuals] persons shall be confidential  
88 pursuant to section 19a-25 and shall not be further disclosed without the  
89 authorization of the [child or the child's legal guardian] vaccine  
90 recipient, the vaccine recipient's court-appointed guardian or  
91 conservator, if applicable, or, in the case of a child who received a  
92 vaccine, such child's parent or guardian.

93 (j) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, [pursuant to] in  
94 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, [to specify] to implement  
95 the provisions of this section, including, but not limited to, regulations  
96 specifying (1) how information on vaccinations [or exemptions from  
97 vaccination] and, when appropriate, contraindications or exemptions to  
98 administration of each vaccine dose, is reported in a timely manner to  
99 the [registry,] immunization information system and (2) how  
100 information on the [registry] immunization information system is made  
101 available to [health care providers, parents or guardians, directors of  
102 health and school nurses, how parents or guardians may decline their  
103 child's enrollment in the registry, and to otherwise implement the  
104 provisions] persons authorized to receive such information pursuant to  
105 subsections (b) to (h), inclusive, of this section.

106 (k) The commissioner shall, in consultation with the Office of Health  
107 Strategy, adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of  
108 chapter 54, to facilitate interoperability between the immunization  
109 information system and the State-wide Health Information Exchange  
110 established pursuant to section 17b-59d. The commissioner may  
111 implement policies and procedures necessary to administer the  
112 provisions of this section while in the process of adopting such policies

113 and procedures as regulations, provided the department posts such  
114 policies and procedures on the eRegulations System prior to adopting  
115 them. Policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this section  
116 shall be valid until regulations are adopted in accordance with the  
117 provisions of chapter 54."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2022	19a-7h