



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2022

LCO No. 5489



Offered by:

SEN. BERTHEL, 32nd Dist.
SEN. CHAMPAGNE, 35th Dist.
SEN. CICARELLA, 34th Dist.
SEN. FAZIO, 36th Dist.
SEN. FORMICA, 20th Dist.
SEN. HWANG, 28th Dist.
SEN. KELLY, 21st Dist.

SEN. KISSEL, 7th Dist.
SEN. MARTIN, 31st Dist.
SEN. MINER, 30th Dist.
SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.
SEN. SOMERS, 18th Dist.
SEN. WITKOS, 8th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 457

File No. 322

Cal. No. 241

(As Amended)

"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 Section 19a-7h of the general statutes is repealed and the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 July 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 immunization information system shall comply with the
94 National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Immunization
95 Information System Functional Standards, as amended from time to
96 time.

97 (k) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, [pursuant to] in
98 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, [to specify] to implement
99 the provisions of this section, including, but not limited to, regulations
100 specifying (1) how information on vaccinations [or exemptions from
101 vaccination] and, when appropriate, contraindications or exemptions to
102 administration of each vaccine dose, is reported in a timely manner to
103 the [registry,] immunization information system, and (2) how
104 information on the [registry] immunization information system is made
105 available to [health care providers, parents or guardians, directors of

106 health and school nurses, how parents or guardians may decline their
 107 child's enrollment in the registry, and to otherwise implement the
 108 provisions] persons authorized to receive such information pursuant to
 109 subsections (b) to (h), inclusive, of this section.

110 (l) The commissioner shall, in consultation with the Office of Health
 111 Strategy, adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of
 112 chapter 54, to facilitate interoperability between the immunization
 113 information system and the State-wide Health Information Exchange
 114 established pursuant to section 17b-59d. The commissioner may
 115 implement policies and procedures necessary to administer the
 116 provisions of this section while in the process of adopting such policies
 117 and procedures as regulations, provided the department posts such
 118 policies and procedures on the eRegulations System prior to adopting
 119 them. Policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this section
 120 shall be valid until regulations are adopted in accordance with the
 121 provisions of chapter 54."

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