

1 HB538
2 116022-1
3 By Representatives Gordon, Kennedy, Guin and Mitchell
4 RFD: Health
5 First Read: 11-FEB-10

2
3
4
5
6
7
8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the State Health
9 Officer is authorized, subject to the approval of
10 the State Board of Health, to designate diseases
11 against which children in public schools in Alabama
12 must be immunized.

13 This bill would require the State Board of
14 Health to provide each parent or guardian of a
15 female student entering into the sixth grade
16 certain information concerning infection and the
17 immunization against the human papillomavirus.

18
19 A BILL
20 TO BE ENTITLED
21 AN ACT

22
23 To require the State Board of Health to provide
24 parents or guardians of sixth grade female students
25 information concerning the infection and the immunization
26 against the human papillomavirus.

27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

1 Section 1. (a) On or after October 1, 2010, each
2 school shall provide each parent or guardian of a female
3 student who is entering sixth grade with information
4 prescribed by the State Board of Health under subsection (b)
5 concerning the link between cervical cancer and the human
6 papillomavirus (HPV) infection and that an immunization
7 against the human papillomavirus infection is available.

8 (b) The State Board of Health shall provide each
9 school described in subsection (a) with the following
10 information concerning cervical cancer and the human
11 papillomavirus infection:

12 (1) The latest scientific information on the
13 immunization against the human papillomavirus infection and
14 the immunization's effectiveness against causes of cervical
15 cancer.

16 (2) That a pap smear is still critical for the
17 detection of precancerous changes in the cervix to allow for
18 treatment before cervical cancer develops.

19 (3) Information concerning the means by which the
20 human papillomavirus infection is contracted.

21 (4) A statement that any questions or concerns
22 regarding immunizing a child against human papillomavirus
23 could be answered by contacting a health care provider.

24 Section 2. (a) Each school that enrolls sixth grade
25 female students shall require the parent or guardian of a
26 female student entering sixth grade to furnish not later than
27 the twentieth school day after the first day of school a

1 written statement prescribed by the State Board of Health that
2 the parent or guardian has received the information required
3 under subsection (b) of Section 1 and that:

4 (1) The student has received or is receiving the
5 immunization.

6 (2) The parent has decided not to have the student
7 immunized.

8 (3) The parent chooses not to provide the
9 information to the school concerning whether the student was
10 immunized against the human papillomavirus infection.

11 (b) A student may not be prevented from enrolling
12 in, attending, or graduating from school for the sole reason
13 that the student has not provided the school with the written
14 statement required under this section.

15 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the
16 first day of the third month following its passage and
17 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.