

Senate Bill 445

By: Senators Sims of the 12th, Esteves of the 6th, Merritt of the 9th, Mallow of the 2nd,
Anderson of the 43rd and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 3 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to student health in elementary and secondary education, so as to require
3 the Department of Education to provide to parents and guardians of students entering the
4 sixth grade information regarding recommended adolescent vaccinations in print and
5 electronic form; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
6 purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 3 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 relating to student health in elementary and secondary education, is amended by revising
11 Code Section 20-2-778, relating to required information to parents of students regarding
12 meningococcal meningitis and influenza and their respective vaccines, as follows:

13 "20-2-778.

14 (a) Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, the Department of Education shall provide
15 all parents and guardians of students entering the sixth grade with information on
16 recommended adolescent vaccinations for meningococcal meningitis disease, human

17 papillomavirus (HPV), and tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (TDAP). Such information
18 shall be provided in both print and electronic form and shall include:

19 (1) Information on each vaccine and how it prevents the associated disease or diseases;

20 (2) A list of sources for additional information; and

21 (3) Related recommendations issued by the Advisory Committee on Immunization
22 Practices of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

23 (b) If a local board of education provides information on immunizations, infectious
24 diseases, medications, or other school health issues to parents and guardians of students in
25 grades ~~six~~ seven through 12, then the following information about meningococcal
26 meningitis disease and influenza and their respective vaccines shall be included:

27 (1) A description of causes, symptoms, and means of transmission;

28 (2) A list of sources for additional information; and

29 (3) Related recommendations issued by the Advisory Committee on Immunization
30 Practices of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

31 ~~(b)~~(c) The Department of Education, in cooperation with the Department of Public Health,
32 shall develop and make available to local school systems the information ~~about~~
33 ~~meningococcal meningitis disease and influenza and their respective vaccines to local~~
34 ~~school systems~~ as required under ~~subsection~~ subsections (a) and (b) of this Code section
35 in an efficient manner that shall include posting the information on its public website."

36 **SECTION 2.**

37 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.