

HOUSE BILL No. 1160

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-34-10; IC 21-40; IC 21-44-8.

Synopsis: Student immunizations. Provides that a student enrolled in a health profession education program may not be required to receive an immunization as a condition of: (1) participating in; or (2) obtaining; clinical training or clinical experience required by the program when the student has a medical or religious exemption. Allows a student to bring a civil action against an entity for a violation of these provisions. Amends the definition of "documentation of exemption" for purposes of provisions governing immunization requirements at state educational institutions. Provides that a student may not be required to provide specific information regarding the student's religious objection.

Effective: Upon passage.

Cash, Carbaugh, McGuire

January 8, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.



First Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2025)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1160

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-34-10 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 UPON PASSAGE]:

4 **Chapter 10. Health Profession Education Program**

5 **Sec. 1. This chapter does not apply to a contract entered into or**
6 **renewed before May 15, 2025.**

7 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "health profession education**
8 **program" means an education program that:**

9 (1) is designed to prepare a student for a career in a health
10 profession regulated by an entity described in IC 25-0.5-11;
11 and

12 (2) requires a student to complete clinical training or clinical
13 experience at an offsite facility.

14 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "immunization" means the**
15 **treatment of an individual with a vaccine to produce immunity.**

16 **Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "student" means a student**
17 **enrolled in a health profession education program.**



1 **Sec. 5. (a) A student may not be required to receive an**
 2 **immunization as a condition of:**

3 **(1) participating in; or**

4 **(2) obtaining;**

5 **clinical training or clinical experience required by a health**
 6 **profession education program when the student has a medical**
 7 **exemption or objects on religious grounds in accordance with**
 8 **IC 21-40-5-4 or IC 21-40-5-6.**

9 **(b) A student may not be required to provide specific**
 10 **information regarding the student's religious objection under**
 11 **subsection (a).**

12 **Sec. 6. (a) A student may bring a civil action against an entity**
 13 **that violates this chapter.**

14 **(b) The court may award to a student who prevails in an action**
 15 **under this section any of the following:**

16 **(1) Injunctive relief.**

17 **(2) Costs and reasonable attorney's fees.**

18 SECTION 2. IC 21-40-1-6, AS AMENDED BY THE TECHNICAL
 19 CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS
 20 AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON
 21 PASSAGE]: Sec. 6. "Documentation of exemption" means a: ~~form that:~~

22 ~~(1) is acceptable to a state educational institution; and~~

23 ~~(2) (1) form that~~ indicates the circumstances as described in
 24 IC 21-40-5-4; ~~and or~~

25 **(2) statement that a student has a sincerely held religious**
 26 **belief as described in IC 21-40-5-6;**

27 entitling the student to an exemption from the requirements in ~~sections~~
 28 IC 21-40-5-2 and IC 21-40-5-3.

29 SECTION 3. IC 21-40-5-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007, SECTION
 30 281, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON
 31 PASSAGE]: Sec. 6. (a) Except as otherwise provided, a student may
 32 not be required to undergo testing, examination, immunization, or
 33 treatment required under this chapter when the student objects on
 34 religious grounds.

35 (b) A religious objection does not exempt a student from testing,
 36 examination, immunization, or treatment required under this chapter
 37 unless the request for an exemption is:

38 (1) made in writing;

39 (2) signed by the student; and

40 (3) delivered to the individual who might order a test, an
 41 examination, an immunization, or a treatment absent the religious
 42 objection.



1 (c) A state educational institution may not require a student to
 2 provide specific information regarding the student's religious
 3 objection in a request for an exemption described in subsection (b).

4 SECTION 4. IC 21-44-8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
 5 A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON
 6 PASSAGE]:

7 **Chapter 8. Health Profession Education Program**

8 **Sec. 1. This chapter does not apply to a contract entered into or
 9 renewed before May 15, 2025.**

10 **Sec. 2. (a) As used in this chapter, "health profession education
 11 program" means an education program that:**

12 (1) is designed to prepare a student for a career in a health
 13 profession regulated by an entity described in IC 25-0.5-11;

14 and

15 (2) requires a student to complete clinical training or clinical
 16 experience at an offsite facility.

17 (b) The term includes an intern, residency, and graduate
 18 program (as defined in IC 21-44-1-12).

19 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "immunization" means the
 20 treatment of an individual with a vaccine to produce immunity.**

21 **Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "student" means a student
 22 enrolled in a health profession education program.**

23 **Sec. 5. (a) A student may not be required to receive an
 24 immunization as a condition of:**

25 (1) participating in; or

26 (2) obtaining;

27 clinical training or clinical experience required by a health
 28 profession education program when the student has a medical
 29 exemption or objects on religious grounds in accordance with
 30 IC 21-40-5-4 or IC 21-40-5-6.

31 (b) A student may not be required to provide specific
 32 information regarding the student's religious objection under
 33 subsection (a).

34 **Sec. 6. (a) A student may bring a civil action against an entity
 35 that violates this chapter.**

36 (b) The court may award to a student who prevails in an action
 37 under this section any of the following:

38 (1) Injunctive relief.

39 (2) Costs and reasonable attorney's fees.

40 **SECTION 5. An emergency is declared for this act.**

