

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the Indiana State Department of Health to improve adult vaccination rates and develop an adult immunization plan.

BECKER, ALTING

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

Second Regular Session 123rd General Assembly (2024)

SENATE RESOLUTION _____

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the Indiana State
2 Department of Health to improve adult vaccination rates and
3 develop an adult immunization plan.

4 *Whereas, Adult vaccines reduce the burden of widespread*
5 *disease, such as long-term illness, hospitalization, and death,*
6 *and enable individuals to live longer, healthier, and more*
7 *productive lives;*

8 *Whereas, Despite vaccine recommendations from the*
9 *United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*
10 *(CDC) and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices,*
11 *many adults do not receive all recommended vaccines;*

12 *Whereas, The CDC estimates that, since 2010,*
13 *influenza-related hospitalizations in the United States have*
14 *climbed as high as 710,000 and influenza-related deaths have*
15 *ranged from 12,000 to 56,000;*

16 *Whereas, Roughly 150,000 people are hospitalized with*
17 *pneumococcal pneumonia and 5-7% of those individuals die*
18 *each year;*

2024

RR 3535/DI JC



1 *Whereas, The United States annually spends more than \$21*
2 *billion treating adults aged 50 years and older for influenza*
3 *and pneumococcal disease, both of which are*
4 *vaccine-preventable, and Indiana spends approximately \$549*
5 *million annually on medical and indirect costs associated with*
6 *vaccine-preventable diseases in individuals 50 years and older;*

7 *Whereas, Influenza, like many vaccine-preventable*
8 *diseases, also contributes to workplace productivity loss, as a*
9 *typical full-time employee may lose up to 3.5 workdays due to*
10 *an influenza infection;*

11 *Whereas, For individuals 65 years of age and older,*
12 *respiratory syncytial virus can lead to as many as 160,000*
13 *hospitalizations and 10,000 deaths in the United States each*
14 *year;*

15 *Whereas, An estimated 880,000 people in the United States*
16 *have chronic hepatitis B, which can cause serious health*
17 *problems like liver damage, cirrhosis, liver cancer, and death;*

18 *Whereas, Human papillomavirus causes over 37,000*
19 *cancers in women and men each year, and about 4,000 women*
20 *die each year from cervical cancer;*

21 *Whereas, Despite the burden and consequences of*
22 *vaccine-preventable diseases, adult vaccination rates remain*
23 *low in the United States and far below national targets;*

24 *Whereas, As a result of low vaccination rates, adults*
25 *experience higher rates of morbidity and mortality from*
26 *vaccine-preventable diseases;*

27 *Whereas, Racial and ethnic minority populations, as well*
28 *as rural communities, report consistently lower rates of*
29 *immunization, attributable in part to decreased vaccine*
30 *awareness and knowledge of vaccination schedules;*



1 *Whereas, Providing targeted education and awareness of*
2 *adult vaccinations among minority and rural populations in the*
3 *state through evidence-based strategies can increase*
4 *vaccination rates;*

5 *Whereas, Supporting access to vaccines is a necessary*
6 *public health tool that will protect individuals from*
7 *vaccine-preventable diseases; and*

8 *Whereas, Developing a state immunization plan focused on*
9 *adults may reduce the impact of disruptions to adult routine*
10 *vaccines, decrease preventable healthcare utilization and*
11 *burden, reduce absenteeism due to illness, and help protect*
12 *populations from vaccine-preventable diseases: Therefore,*
13

14 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*
15 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

16 SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate urges the Indiana
17 State Department of Health to develop an effective and
18 actionable state immunization plan that includes adult
19 immunizations, with a goal of aligning stakeholders on shared
20 objectives and efforts to facilitate broad vaccine availability and
21 access and to provide greater clarity to patients and providers on
22 age-appropriate options.

23 SECTION 2. That the Indiana Senate urges the Indiana
24 State Department of Health to explore federal funding
25 opportunities and public-private partnerships to support vaccine
26 awareness and access to programs aligned with the goals
27 established in the state immunization plan.

28 SECTION 3. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed
29 to transmit copies of this Resolution to the Indiana State
30 Department of Health, John Wiley, and Sandy Benes.
31

