2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 47

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDMONSTON

VACCINES/VACCINATION: Requires that communication issued about immunization
                       requirements include exemption information and applies exemptions not only to
                       students seeking to enter school but also to students attending school

1   AN ACT

2   To amend and reenact R.S. 17:170(E), relative to student immunization requirements; to

3   require that any communication issued to students or their parents or guardians

4   relative to immunization requirements include information relative to exemption

5   from such requirements; to provide that exemptions apply to those attending schools

6   in addition to those seeking to enter schools; and to provide for related matters.

7   Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8   Section 1. R.S. 17:170(E) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9   §170.   Immunization of persons entering schools, kindergartens, colleges,

10   proprietary or vocational schools, and day care centers for the first time;

11   immunization of persons entering sixth grade; electronic transmission of

12   immunization compliance reports; exemption

13   *   *   *

14   E.(1)   No person attending or seeking to enter any school or facility

15   enumerated in Subsection A of this Section shall be required to comply with the

16   provisions of this Section, including any additional immunization or proof of

17   immunity requirement adopted pursuant to the provisions of this Section, if the

18   student person or his parent or guardian submits either a written statement from a

19   physician stating that the procedure is contraindicated for medical reasons, or a

1   written dissent from the student or his parent or guardian ~~is presented~~ that includes

2   written verification that the child has been examined by a physician.

3   (2) Any communication issued to persons or their parents or guardians

4   relative to the requirements of this Section shall include the text and legal citation

5   of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.

6   *   *   *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 47 Reengrossed   2024 Regular Session   Edmonston

Abstract: Requires that communication issued to students or parents about immunization requirements include exemption information and applies exemptions not only to students seeking to enter school but also to students attending school.

Present law requires each person entering any school (licensed day care centers and elementary, secondary, and postsecondary schools) for the first time to present satisfactory evidence of immunity to or immunization against vaccine-preventable diseases according to a schedule approved by the office of public health or to present evidence of an immunization program in progress. Exempts a student seeking to enter any such school or facility from this requirement if he submits a written statement from a doctor relative to medical contraindication or a written dissent. Proposed law requires that such written dissent include written verification that the child has been examined by a physician.

Proposed law further:

(1)   Applies the exemption not only to students seeking to enter school but also to students attending school.

(2)   Requires that any communication issued to students or their parents or guardians relative to immunization requirements include the text and legal citation of the exemption provision.

(Amends R.S. 17:170(E))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

    The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

    1.   Add requirement that the written dissent authorized by present law include written verification that the child has been examined by a physician.