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S.B. 144
135th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Passed by the Senate

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Romanchuk

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SUMMARY

- Authorizes certified pharmacy technicians and registered pharmacy technicians to administer immunizations in the same manner that pharmacy interns are authorized to do so under current law.
- Authorizes pharmacists, interns, and technicians to administer immunizations beginning when a child is five, as opposed to the current law age limit of seven.
- Eliminates a requirement that most immunizations for children under age 13 be prescribed in order to be administered by a pharmacist or pharmacy intern.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Administration of immunizations

The bill makes several modifications to the authority of pharmacists and other persons under their supervision to administer immunizations. First, it extends the authority to certified pharmacy technicians and registered pharmacy technicians in the same manner as pharmacy interns under current law.¹ This involves having to meet a number of conditions, including that the technician (1) work under the direct supervision of a pharmacist, (2) complete a course in the administration of immunizations that meets requirements established in rules, (3) receive and maintain certification to perform basic life-support procedures, and (4) practice in accordance with a protocol that meets various requirements established under existing law.²

Second, the bill makes several changes regarding immunizations for children. The bill authorizes pharmacists, interns, and technicians to administer immunizations beginning when a

¹ R.C. 4729.41(A)(1).

² R.C. 4729.41(B).

child is five, as opposed to the current law age limit of seven. For children under 13, the bill eliminates a requirement that their immunizations generally be prescribed (other than immunizations for COVID-19 and the flu, which do not require a prescription under current law or the bill).³ The bill also requires, for each immunization administered to a child under 18, that the pharmacist, intern, or technician inform the child's parent or legal guardian of the importance of well child visits with a pediatrician or other primary care provider, and refer patients when appropriate.⁴

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	08-28-23
Reported, S. Health	12-06-23
Passed Senate (30-1)	12-06-23

ANSB0144PS-135/ar

³ R.C. 4729.41(A)(1).

⁴ R.C. 4729.41(C)(4)(d).