

Representative Norman K Thurston proposes the following substitute bill:

IMMUNIZATION OF STUDENTS AMENDMENTS

2016 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Carol Spackman Moss

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions related to immunization requirements for students.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ amends requirements for a student seeking an immunization exemption;
- ▶ requires the Department of Health to:
 - develop an immunization exemption form;
 - develop an education module;
 - make an immunization exemption form available, free of charge, online, at certain LEAs, and at local health departments; and
- ▶ make rules;
- ▶ enacts requirements related to renewing an exemption from required immunizations;
- ▶ amends requirements for transferring a student's exemption from immunization to a new school;
- ▶ requires a school to maintain a list of students who have not received required immunizations;



- 26 ▶ amends provisions related to a conditional enrollment; and
- 27 ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

28 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

29 None

30 **Other Special Clauses:**

31 This bill provides a special effective date.

32 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

33 AMENDS:

- 34 **26-1-17.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 382
- 35 **53A-11-301**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1992, Chapter 53
- 36 **53A-11-302**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 395
- 37 **53A-11-303**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2
- 38 **53A-11-304**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2
- 39 **53A-11-306**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2

40 ENACTS:

41 **53A-11-300.5**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

42 REPEALS AND REENACTS:

43 **53A-11-302.5**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1992, Chapter 129



45 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

46 Section 1. Section **26-1-17.5** is amended to read:

47 **26-1-17.5. Confidential records.**

48 (1) A record classified as confidential under this title shall remain confidential, and be
49 released according to the provisions of this title, notwithstanding Section **63G-2-310**.

50 (2) In addition to those persons granted access to ~~[records]~~ a private record described in
51 Subsection **63G-2-302(1)(b)**, immunization records may be shared among schools, school
52 districts, and local and state health departments and the state Department of Human Services as
53 necessary to ~~[assure]~~ ensure compliance with ~~[Section 53A-11-301]~~ Title 53A, Chapter 11, Part
54 3, Immunization of Students, and to prevent, investigate, and control the causes of epidemic,
55 infectious, communicable, and other diseases affecting the public health.

56 Section 2. Section **53A-11-300.5** is enacted to read:

57 **53A-11-300.5. Definitions.**

58 As used in this part:

59 (1) "Certificate of immunization" means:

60 (a) a certification stating that a student received each required immunization, including

61 the date each immunization was administered, issued by:

62 (i) a licensed health care provider;

63 (ii) an authorized representative of a local health department; or

64 (iii) an authorized representative of the department; or

65 (b) verification from the department, through a central database, that a student has
66 received each required immunization, including the date each immunization was administered.

67 (2) "Department" means the Department of Health, created in Section [26-1-4](#).

68 (3) "Immunization exemption form" means a form, described in Section [53A-11-302.5](#),
69 that exempts a student from one or more required immunizations.

70 (4) "Local Education Agency" or "LEA" means:

71 (a) a school district;

72 (b) a charter school; or

73 (c) the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.

74 (5) "Required immunizations" means immunizations against communicable diseases
75 required by department rule described in Section [53A-11-303](#).

76 (6) "School" means:

77 (a) center-based child care, as defined in Section [26-39-102](#);

78 (b) a public school, as defined in Section [26-39-102](#);

79 (c) residential child care, as defined in Section [26-39-102](#); or

80 (d) a private school that:

81 (i) is not primarily funded at public expense; and

82 (ii) provides education to students in any grade from kindergarten through grade 12.

83 (7) "Student" means an individual who attends a school.

84 Section 3. Section **53A-11-301** is amended to read:

85 **53A-11-301. Certificate of immunization required -- Exceptions-- Weighted Pupil**
86 **Unit funding.**

87 (1) (a) [~~Unless exempted for personal, medical, or religious objections as provided in~~

88 ~~Section 53A-11-302;~~ Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), a student may not attend a
89 [public, private, or parochial kindergarten, elementary, or secondary school through grade 12,
90 nursery school, licensed day care center, child care facility, family care home, or headstart
91 program in this state] school unless there is presented to the appropriate official of the school a
92 certificate of immunization ~~[from a licensed physician or authorized representative of the state~~
93 ~~or local health department stating that the student has received immunization against~~
94 ~~communicable diseases as required by rules adopted under Section 53A-11-303]~~ for the
95 student.

96 (b) A student who does not present a certificate of immunization may attend a school if
97 the student:

98 (i) is exempt as described in Section 53A-11-302;

99 (ii) qualifies for conditional enrollment under Section 53A-11-306; or

100 (iii) meets:

101 (A) the definition of a student under Section 53A-1-1001; and

102 (B) the immunization requirements for military children under Section 53A-1-1001.

103 (2) [school districts] An LEA may not receive weighted pupil unit money for a student
104 unless the student [has obtained]:

105 (a) presents a certificate of immunization [under this section or qualifies for
106 conditional enrollment or an exemption from immunization under Section 53A-11-302.]; or

107 (b) is allowed to attend school without presenting a certificate of immunization as
108 described in Subsection (1)(b).

109 Section 4. Section 53A-11-302 is amended to read:

110 **53A-11-302. Exemption from required immunizations.**

111 ~~[(1) A student may not enter school without a certificate of immunization, except as~~
112 ~~provided in this section.]~~

113 ~~[(2) Except as provided in Section 53A-1-1001, a student who at the time of school~~
114 ~~enrollment has not been completely immunized against each specified disease may attend~~
115 ~~school under a conditional enrollment if the student has received one dose of each specified~~
116 ~~vaccine prior to enrollment.]~~

117 ~~[(3)]~~ A student is exempt from receiving [the required immunizations] required
118 immunizations if there is presented to the appropriate official of the school [one or more of the

119 following]:

120 (1) for an exemption for a medical reason:

121 (a) a certificate from a licensed ~~[physician]~~ health care provider stating that due to the
122 physical condition of the student ~~[one or more specified immunizations]~~, a required

123 immunization would endanger the student's life or health; and

124 (b) an immunization exemption form described in Section 53A-11-302.5; or

125 ~~[(b) A completed form obtained at the local health department where the student
126 resides, providing:]~~

127 ~~[(i) the information required under Subsection 53A-11-302.5(1); and]~~

128 ~~[(ii) a statement that the person has a personal belief opposed to immunizations, which
129 is signed by one of the individuals listed in Subsection 53A-11-302(3)(c) and witnessed by the
130 local health officer or his designee; or]~~

131 ~~[(c) a statement that the person is a bona fide member of a specified, recognized
132 religious organization whose teachings are contrary to immunizations, signed by one of the
133 following persons:]~~

134 ~~[(i) one of the student's parents;]~~

135 ~~[(ii) the student's guardian;]~~

136 ~~[(iii) a legal age brother or sister of a student who has no parent or guardian; or]~~

137 ~~[(iv) the student, if of legal age.]~~

138 (2) for an exemption for a personal or religious belief:

139 (a) an immunization exemption form described in Section 53A-11-302.5, subject to the
140 renewal requirement described in Section 53A-11-302.5; and

141 (b) a certificate of completion for the online education module.

142 Section 5. Section 53A-11-302.5 is repealed and reenacted to read:

143 **53A-11-302.5. Immunization exemption form -- Online education module --**

144 **Renewal requirement.**

145 (1) The department shall:

146 (a) develop an immunization exemption form that:

147 (i) specifies if an exemption is for a medical, personal, or religious belief;

148 (ii) indicates that the individual who signs the form is required to complete the online

149 education module described in Subsection (2);

150 (iii) states requirements for a student who has not received required immunizations, in
151 the event of an outbreak of a vaccine preventable illness;
152 (iv) includes a statement claiming exemption from one or more required
153 immunizations, signed by:
154 (A) a student's parent or legal guardian;
155 (B) for a student who does not have a parent or legal guardian, the student's sibling of
156 legal age; or
157 (C) for a student 18 years of age or older, the student;
158 (v) includes the name and address of the individual who signs the form;
159 (vi) includes the name of the student claiming exemption from one or more required
160 immunizations; and
161 (vii) includes the name of the school the student attends at the time the form is signed;
162 (b) include on the immunization exemption form only the information described in
163 Subsection (1)(a); and
164 (c) make the immunization exemption form available to the public, free of charge:
165 (i) online;
166 (ii) at an LEA, if the LEA requests the form; and
167 (iii) in hard copy at local health departments.
168 (2) (a) The department shall develop an online education module that only includes:
169 (i) information about how to recognize early warning signs and symptoms of vaccine
170 preventable illnesses;
171 (ii) recommendations to reduce the likelihood of an unvaccinated individual
172 contracting or transmitting a vaccine preventable illness, including how to respond in an
173 outbreak; and
174 (iii) a certificate of completion that includes the date the individual completed the
175 online education module.
176 (b) In developing the online education module, the department shall consult with
177 individuals interested in the health of children who are not immune, including individuals from
178 organizations for health care professionals.
179 (3) (a) In order to exempt a student from required immunizations, a student's parent or
180 legal guardian shall present to the student's school:

181 (i) a completed immunization exemption form described in Subsection (1); and
182 (ii) a certificate of completion for the online education module described in Subsection
183 (2).

184 (b) An individual who is eligible to sign an immunization exemption form for multiple
185 students may present a single certificate of completion described in Subsection (2) to receive
186 and immunization exemption for each student.

187 (c) An immunization exemption form is valid:

188 (i) for a student who is at least 12 years old, until the student leaves school; or

189 (ii) for a student who is younger than 12 years old, until the first day of school for the
190 school year after the student turns 12.

191 (d) When a student with an immunization exemption form turns 12 years old, in order
192 to renew the student's exemption from required immunizations, the student's parent or legal
193 guardian shall present to the student's school on or before the first day of the school year after
194 the student turns 12 years old:

195 (i) a new immunization exemption form; and

196 (ii) a certificate of completion for the online education module, dated within one year
197 of the date the parent or legal guardian presents the certificate of completion.

198 (4) In order to remain exempt from required immunizations, an exempt student who
199 attends a new school shall:

200 (a) submit to the student's new school:

201 (i) a completed immunization exemption form; and

202 (ii) certificate of completion for the online education module described in Subsection
203 (2); or

204 (b) ensure that the student's previous school confirms with the student's new school
205 that the student is exempt from required immunizations.

206 Section 6. Section **53A-11-303** is amended to read:

207 **53A-11-303. Department of Health regulations.**

208 (1) [~~The Department of Health~~] In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
209 Administrative Rulemaking Act, the department shall [adopt] make rules to establish:

210 (a) which immunizations are required as a condition for attending school; and

211 (b) the manner and frequency of [their] the administration of required immunizations.

212 (2) The rules ~~[adopted]~~ made under Subsection (1) shall:
 213 (a) conform to recognized standard medical practices~~[-]; and~~
 214 ~~[(3) The rules shall]~~
 215 (b) require ~~[the reporting of]~~ a school to report statistical information and names of
 216 ~~[noncompliers by the schools]~~ students who are not in compliance with Section 53A-11-301 to
 217 the department.

218 (3) The department may make rules to implement:
 219 (a) the immunization exemption form described in Section 53A-11-302.5;
 220 (b) the online education module described in Section 53A-11-302.5; or
 221 (c) the requirements for a conditional enrollment described in Section 53A-11-306.

222 Section 7. Section 53A-11-304 is amended to read:

223 **53A-11-304. Certificate part of student's record -- Forms for certificates --**
 224 **Recording of immunization record as official certificate -- School record of noncertificate**
 225 **holders.**

226 (1) ~~[Each]~~ A school shall retain an official [certificates] certificate of immunization for
 227 ~~[every] an enrolled student[-. The certificate becomes a]~~ that is part of the [individual] student's
 228 permanent school record [and follows the student through his or her public or private school
 229 career].

230 (2) ~~The [Department of Health shall provide official certificate of immunization forms~~
 231 ~~to public and private]~~ department shall create an immunization form and distribute the
 232 immunization form to schools, [physicians] health care providers, and local health departments.
 233 ~~[The forms referred to in this subsection shall include a clear statement of the student's rights~~
 234 ~~under Section 53A-11-302.]~~

235 ~~[(3) Any immunization record provided by a licensed physician, registered nurse, or~~
 236 ~~public health official may be accepted by a school official as a certificate of immunization if~~
 237 ~~the type of immunization given and the dates given are specified and the]~~

238 (3) (a) A school shall record the information [is transferred to] on a certificate of
 239 immunization as an official certificate of immunization [and verified by the school district in
 240 which the public or private school is located].

241 (b) A school shall verify the information on a certificate of immunization.

242 (4) (a) At the beginning of each school year, a school shall create a list of students who

243 do not have an official certificate of immunization, noting if a student on the list is allowed to
 244 attend school without presenting a certificate of immunization, under Section 53A-11-301.

245 (b) A school shall provide the list of students described in Subsection (4)(a) to the
 246 principal or other school director each year.

247 (c) A name appearing on the list described in Subsection (4)(a) is subject to
 248 confidentiality requirements described in Section 26-1-17.5 and Section 53A-13-301.

249 Section 8. Section 53A-11-306 is amended to read:

250 **53A-11-306. Conditional enrollment -- Suspension for noncompliance --**

251 **Procedure.**

252 ~~[(1) Conditional enrollment time periods may be modified by the department by legally~~
 253 ~~adopted rules.]~~

254 (1) A student who has not received the required immunizations may attend school on a
 255 conditional enrollment:

256 (a) if the student has received a dose of each required vaccine, but is not due for the
 257 next dose of the vaccine under department rule described in Section 53A-11-303; or

258 (b) for up to 21 calendar days after:

259 (i) the first day of school for a student who enrolls in a school before October 1; or

260 (ii) the student enrolls in a school for a student who enrolls on or after October 1.

261 ~~[(2) The requirements for conditional enrollment shall apply to each student unless that~~
 262 ~~student is exempted under Section 53A-11-302.]~~

263 (2) (a) After the conditional enrollment period, a school shall prohibit further
 264 attendance of a student who does not comply with Section 53A-11-301.

265 ~~[(3)]~~ (b) After five days of a conditional enrollment described in this section, a school
 266 shall mail written notice [of a pending suspension and of the student's rights under Section
 267 53A-11-302 shall be mailed] that:

268 (i) the student will be suspended at the end of the conditional enrollment if the student
 269 is not in compliance with Section 53A-11-301; and

270 (ii) describes the process for obtaining the required immunizations or an immunization
 271 exemption form to the last-known address of [a] the student's:

272 (A) parent[;];

273 (B) legal guardian[;]; or

274 (C) [~~or~~] legal age [~~brother or sister of~~] sibling for a student who [~~is without~~] does not
275 have a parent or legal guardian[~~, the governing authority of any school shall prohibit further~~
276 ~~attendance by a student under a conditional enrollment who has failed to obtain the~~
277 ~~immunization required within time period set forth in Section 53A-11-302 or otherwise~~
278 ~~established by rule~~].

279 [~~(4)~~] (3) [Parents] A parent or [~~guardians~~] legal guardian of [~~children who are~~] a
280 student who is prohibited from attending school for failure to comply with the provisions of
281 this part shall be referred to the juvenile court.

282 Section 9. **Effective date.**

283 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2017.