

2018 -- H 7882

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Introduced By: Representatives McNamara, and Ackerman

Date Introduced: February 28, 2018

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

(Dept. of Health)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Sections 23-1-18 and 23-1-44 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-1 entitled
2 "Department of Health" are hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **23-1-18. Power to provide rules and regulations in specific areas.**

4 Without limiting the generality of § 23-1-17, the rules and regulations relating to
5 sanitation and health provided for by § 23-1-17 may include:

6 (1) Provisions fixing responsibilities of owners, operators, and occupants of land or
7 buildings for the sanitary condition, maintenance, use, and occupancy of the land and buildings.

8 (2) Minimum standards with respect to the reporting of any disease and the quarantine of
9 persons affected by that disease.

10 (3) Minimum standards and conditions for the location, construction, and sanitary quality
11 of all drinking water supplies.

12 (4) Minimum standards for facilities and sanitary conditions for schools and the health
13 care for school children.

14 (5) Minimum standards with respect to the maintenance and operation of food businesses.

15 (6) Minimum standards of air quality consistent with human health.

16 (7) Minimum standards consistent with human health for the quality of the waters of the
17 state.

18 (8) Minimum standards consistent with human health for the quality of public drinking
19 water.

1 (9) Minimum standards for immunization and testing for communicable diseases,
2 including, but not limited to, tuberculosis, of employees, children, and students at any child day-
3 care center, family day-care home, private nursery school, any other regular program providing
4 educational services to preschool-aged children, public or private school, college, or university.

5 (10) Provisions requiring the reporting of immunization status and any other relevant
6 information that the director determines appropriate for [all](#) persons ~~under the age of eighteen (18)~~
7 ~~years~~ for the purpose of establishing and maintaining ~~a childhood~~ [an](#) immunization registry,
8 provided however, that all personally identifiable information obtained pursuant to this section
9 shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 37.3 of title 5. [Any person may opt out of the](#)
10 [disclosure of their immunization status by contacting the department of health.](#)

11 (11) Provisions requiring the reporting of inventories and sales of drugs, devices and
12 other products potentially related to the outbreak of disease. All information acquired under this
13 subsection by the department of health is confidential and not subject to public access pursuant to
14 chapter 2 of title 38.

15 **23-1-44. Routine childhood and adult immunization vaccines.**

16 (a) The department of health shall include in the department's immunization program
17 those vaccines for routine childhood immunization as recommended by the Advisory Committee
18 for Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and for [routine](#) adult
19 ~~influenza~~ immunization as recommended by the ACIP, to the extent permitted by available funds.
20 The ~~childhood~~ immunization program includes administrative and quality assurance services and
21 KIDSNET, a confidential, computerized child health information system that is used to manage
22 statewide immunizations, as well as other public health preventive services, for all ~~children~~
23 [persons](#) in Rhode Island from birth through age 18.

24 (b) The director of the department of health shall appoint an advisory committee that will
25 be convened after the ACIP makes a recommendation regarding adult [and childhood](#)
26 immunization. The committee will review the ACIP recommendations for the state, assess the
27 vaccine cost and feasibility, and advise the director of health and the office of the health
28 insurance commissioner regarding insurers and providers acting on the ACIP ~~adult~~ immunization
29 recommendation. All recommendations will be posted on the department of health website. The
30 advisory committee membership shall include, but not be limited to, a primary care provider,
31 pharmacist, representatives of the nursing home industry, the home health care industry and
32 major insurers.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would expand the current law so that Rhode Island adult residents would be
2 included in the department of health immunization registry presently maintained for children.
3 The act would also provide that any person may opt-out of the registry by contacting the
4 department of health.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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