

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 292 Session of 2018

INTRODUCED BY WHITE, EICHELBERGER, RAFFERTY, MENSCH, DINNIMAN, McILHINNEY AND ALLOWAY, MARCH 28, 2018

SENATOR EICHELBERGER, EDUCATION, AS AMENDED, SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to study the
2 issue of immunization policies for students residing at
3 institutions of higher education, conduct a comprehensive
4 analysis of compliance with existing immunization
5 requirements, examine the need for updating immunization
6 policies, suggest options for enhancing voluntary
7 immunization rates for students and report its findings and
8 recommendations to the Senate.

9 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is home to some of the finest
10 higher education institutions in the world; and

11 WHEREAS, Each year thousands of individuals matriculate at
12 colleges and universities throughout this Commonwealth to pursue
13 a degree to prepare them for a future career; and

14 WHEREAS, Many individuals who enroll in an institution of
15 higher education will face numerous academic and nonacademic
16 adversities associated with obtaining a college, graduate or
17 professional degree; and

18 WHEREAS, The College and University Student Vaccination Act
19 requires students residing in housing at institutions of higher
20 education to receive a one-time vaccination against
21 meningococcal meningitis disease unless the student seeks an

1 exception to the requirement; and

2 WHEREAS, The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
3 within the Centers for Disease and Control Prevention has
4 revised its guidelines on meningococcal meningitis vaccine
5 recommendations since the enactment of the College and
6 University Student Vaccination Act; and

7 WHEREAS, The Senate recognizes the seriousness of a
8 meningococcal meningitis disease outbreak at colleges and
9 universities throughout this Commonwealth and wants to study the
10 issue; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission conduct
12 a comprehensive analysis to evaluate the compliance of each
13 institution of higher education throughout this Commonwealth
14 with the College and University Student Vaccination Act; and be
15 it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission
17 determine and report the vaccination rates for meningitis ACWY
18 AND MENINGITIS B by each institution of higher education; and be <--
19 it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission
21 determine if institutions of higher education throughout this
22 Commonwealth are advising and monitoring the need for a catch-up
23 dose of the meningitis ACWY or meningitis B vaccination OR DOSES <--
24 OF BOTH; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission examine
26 meningitis breakouts at institutions of higher education
27 throughout the United States and report the fiscal impact of
28 outbreaks on institutions of higher education; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission evaluate
30 potential measures to ensure higher voluntary immunization rates

1 for meningitis ACWY and meningitis B; and be it further
2 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission report
3 its findings and recommendations to the Senate within 18 months
4 of the adoption of this resolution.