

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 618 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY PHILLIPS-HILL, BROOKS, J. WARD, REGAN, SCAVELLO, DUSH, HUTCHINSON, MARTIN, K. WARD, BARTOLOTTA, AUMENT, MASTRIANO, YAW, PITTMAN, STEFANO AND BAKER, MAY 5, 2021

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, JUNE 8, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for vaccinations AND FOR <--
3 DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Title 35 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
7 Statutes is amended by adding a chapter CHAPTERS to read: <--

CHAPTER 59

VACCINATIONS

10 Sec.

11 ~~5901. Legislative policy and declarations.~~ <--

12 ~~5902~~ 5901. Definitions. <--

13 ~~5903~~ 5902. Requirement to show proof of vaccination prohibited. <--

14 ~~§ 5901. Legislative policy and declarations.~~ <--

15 ~~The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:~~

16 ~~(1) None of the vaccines currently used to vaccinate~~

17 ~~against COVID 19 are approved medical products by the Federal~~

18 ~~Drug Administration and are instead being used under~~

~~Emergency Use Authorization. Under Federal law, an individual must be given the option to accept or refuse administration of the product.~~

~~(2) Many Pennsylvanians have not been able to receive a COVID-19 vaccine due to delays in administration of the vaccines and many individuals cannot receive the vaccine due to illness.~~

~~(3) Vaccination records are private health information and should not be disclosed under government mandate.~~

~~(4) A governmental requirement to obtain a vaccination infringes on individual freedom and harms patient privacy.~~

~~(5) Trusting business entities to make their own decisions is in the best interest of the business entities' employees and customers.~~

§ 5902 5901. Definitions. <--

As used in this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

~~"Business entity." A sole proprietorship, corporation, joint stock association or company, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, association, business trust, syndicate or other commercial or professional activity organized under the laws of this Commonwealth or any other jurisdiction.~~ <--

~~"COVID-19." The novel coronavirus as identified in the Governor's Proclamation of Disaster Emergency issued on March 6, 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020).~~

~~"Government entity." A Commonwealth agency or political subdivision.~~

~~"INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION." A POSTSECONDARY~~ <--

1 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RECEIVING STATE FUNDING THROUGH
2 THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS.

3 "Political subdivision." A county, city, borough,
4 incorporated town, township or school district of this
5 Commonwealth or an agency designated to act on behalf of a
6 political subdivision.

7 § ~~5903~~ 5902. Requirement to show proof of vaccination <--
8 prohibited.

9 No government entity OR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION shall <--
10 require proof of vaccination against COVID-19 to use any
11 service, enter any building or undertake any activity within the
12 territorial limits or the jurisdiction of the government entity.

13 CHAPTER 60 <--

14 DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

15 SEC.

16 6001. DUTIES OF SECRETARY OF HEALTH.

17 § 6001. DUTIES OF SECRETARY OF HEALTH.

18 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, INCLUDING THE ACT
19 OF APRIL 23, 1956 (1955 P.L.1510, NO.500), KNOWN AS THE DISEASE
20 PREVENTION AND CONTROL LAW OF 1955, THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH MAY
21 NOT ORDER OR OTHERWISE REQUIRE A CLOSURE OR ORDER OR OTHERWISE
22 REQUIRE AN INDIVIDUAL THAT HAS NOT BEEN EXPOSED OR POTENTIALLY
23 EXPOSED TO A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE TO DO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

24 (1) PHYSICALLY DISTANCE FROM OTHER INDIVIDUALS.

25 (2) WEAR A UNIVERSAL FACE COVERING.

26 (3) CONDUCT A SPECIFIC HYGIENIC PRACTICE.

27 (4) SHELTER IN PLACE, QUARANTINE OR ISOLATE FROM OTHER
28 INDIVIDUALS.

29 (5) RESTRICT TRAVEL.

30 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.