

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1171 Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY TOMLINSON, ALLOWAY, FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE, FARNESE,
BOSCOLA, WARD, MUSTO, WASHINGTON, RAFFERTY, FERLO, GREENLEAF
AND MENSCH, DECEMBER 23, 2009

SENATOR VANCE, PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, AS AMENDED, JUNE 22,
2010

AN ACT

1 Providing for Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
2 recommendations for influenza vaccination in children.

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

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Immunization
7 Practices Act.

8 Section 2. Recommendations for influenza vaccination in
9 children.

10 (a) Duties.--In order to improve the Commonwealth's
11 childhood immunization rates for influenza and comply with the
12 recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization
13 Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for
14 influenza vaccination, the Department of Health shall do all of
15 the following:

16 (1) Review and enhance current immunization activities
17 to focus on vaccination of all children ages six months to 18

1 years of age who are recommended for an influenza vaccination
2 by the Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices.

3 (2) Increase immunization awareness about ~~traditional~~
4 ~~shots~~ INJECTABLE and needle-free delivery methods by
5 publishing on the department's Internet website information
6 about the benefits of annual immunization against influenza
7 for all children recommended by the Advisory Committee for
8 Immunization Practices.

9 (3) Work with appropriate State agencies and licensed
10 child-care facilities to ensure that the information on the
11 benefits of annual immunization against influenza for
12 children ages six months to 18 years of age is annually
13 distributed to parents in August before influenza season
14 begins.

15 (4) Work with health care professionals and public
16 health organizations to develop plans for expanding outreach
17 and opportunities to achieve the Advisory Committee for
18 Immunization Practices recommended target vaccination of all
19 children aged six months to 18 years of age.

20 (5) Examine the use of schools and alternative venues to
21 administer influenza vaccine to children in a timely manner.

22 (b) Programs.--The department may offer school-based
23 influenza vaccine programs. To the ~~degree that products are~~
24 ~~available through Federal vaccine programs and State funded~~
25 ~~programs, the department shall offer a variety of delivery~~
26 ~~methods, including traditional shots and needle free delivery~~
27 ~~methods~~ EXTENT THAT INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS ARE AVAILABLE, THE
28 DEPARTMENT SHALL OFFER BOTH INJECTABLE AND NEEDLE-FREE DELIVERY
29 METHODS.

30 (c) Report.--The department shall annually, on or before May

1 1, submit a written report on all school-based vaccination
2 programs administered or funded by the department. Its findings
3 and recommendations shall be submitted to the chairman and
4 minority chairman of the Public Health and Welfare Committee of
5 the Senate and the chairman and minority chairman of the Health
6 and Human Services Committee and the Children and Youth
7 Committee of the House of Representatives. The report shall
8 include an assessment of all of the following:

9 (1) the benefits of establishing school-based influenza
10 vaccination programs for the purpose of achieving the
11 Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices recommendation
12 for annual influenza vaccination of all children aged six
13 months to 18 years of age;

14 (2) the rate of participation for students offered both
15 shots and needle-free vaccine delivery methods;

16 (3) the school and community influenza infection rates
17 following the school-based influenza vaccination program;

18 (4) the school-based influenza vaccination program's
19 impact on student absenteeism rates; and

20 (5) the ~~feasibility~~ COST of establishing school-based
21 vaccination programs for ~~seasonal~~ influenza vaccination
22 across this Commonwealth.

23 Section 3. Effective date.

24 This act shall take effect in 60 days.

