
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 633 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY BIZZARRO, SNYDER, O'MARA, A. DAVIS, PISCIOTTANO, KINKEAD, ZABEL, KULIK, BENHAM, MATZIE, HOHENSTEIN, HILL-EVANS, LONGIETTI, MARKOSEK, HANBIDGE, BURGOS, KIRKLAND, FREEMAN, KRAJEWSKI, SHUSTERMAN, INNAMORATO, ISAACSON, MALAGARI, SAINATO, BRIGGS, GUZMAN, KENYATTA, DRISCOLL, WARREN, SANCHEZ, DEASY, BURNS, BERNSTINE, STURLA, HOWARD, T. DAVIS, KIM, LEE, PARKER, ROZZI, D. MILLER, WEBSTER, GAINNEY, NEILSON, MERSKI, KRUEGER, STEPHENS, SIMS, MADDEN AND McNEILL, FEBRUARY 24, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, FEBRUARY 24, 2021

AN ACT

1 Providing for COVID-19 Vaccine Registry and for regulations by
2 Department of Health.

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 COVID-19
7 Vaccine Registry Act.

8 Section 2. Declaration of policy.

9 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

10 (1) The best way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and
11 end the pandemic is to vaccinate as many residents of this
12 Commonwealth as quickly as possible.

13 (2) It is the intent of the General Assembly to support
14 the vaccination process by creating a Statewide vaccination

1 registry which:

2 (i) Permits residents of this Commonwealth to
3 register to get a COVID-19 vaccine.

4 (ii) Permits a family to register at the same time
5 and notes any risk conditions, classification memberships
6 and willingness to travel.

7 (iii) Allows COVID-19 vaccine providers access to
8 the registry to prioritize outreach to eligible
9 participants as vaccines become available.

10 (iv) Limits the frustration residents of this
11 Commonwealth are feeling when trying to access vaccine
12 appointments.

13 Section 3. Definitions.

14 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
15 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
16 context clearly indicates otherwise:

17 "COVID-19." The novel coronavirus as identified in the
18 proclamation of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on
19 March 6, 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and
20 any renewal of the state of disaster emergency.

21 "Department." The Department of Health of the Commonwealth.

22 "Provider." A person or entity authorized to distribute a
23 COVID-19 vaccine to a registrant.

24 "Registrant." An individual or a family member of the
25 individual registering for access to a COVID-19 vaccine in the
26 registry.

27 "Registry." The COVID-19 Vaccine Registry established under
28 section 4.

29 Section 4. COVID-19 vaccine registry.

30 (a) Establishment.--The department shall establish and

1 maintain a COVID-19 vaccine registry of registrants willing to
2 receive a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as a vaccine becomes
3 available. The registry shall:

4 (1) Permit the self-registration of individuals willing
5 to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

6 (2) Allow registration of multiple family members by a
7 single registrant.

8 (3) Permit a registrant to note complicating medical
9 conditions and risk categories and submit documentation of
10 those conditions or categories.

11 (4) Allow a registrant to note how far the registrant is
12 willing to travel to access a COVID-19 vaccine.

13 (5) Permit a provider to sort by zip code, medical
14 condition, travel parameters, risk category and any other
15 category as determined by the department.

16 (6) Contain a feature that regularly contacts
17 registrants and asks registrants to note whether or not they
18 have received a COVID-19 vaccine.

19 (7) Include a method to permit a registrant to be
20 removed from the registry by the registrant upon receiving a
21 vaccination.

22 (8) Require providers to report back to the registry
23 which registrants have received a COVID-19 vaccine to permit
24 the removal of those participants from the registry.

25 (b) Availability of registry.--The department shall create a
26 process whereby a provider may request access to the registry.
27 Except as otherwise provided, the department shall require that
28 any provider accessing the registry may only use the data
29 obtained for the purpose of outreach to provide a COVID-19
30 vaccine. Nothing in this act shall prevent a provider from

1 maintaining any registrant data as necessary and consented by
2 the registrant to procure a COVID-19 vaccine or follow-up care
3 related to a COVID-19 vaccine.

4 (c) Use of registry.--A provider may access the registry for
5 the following purposes:

6 (1) To generate a list of registrants to contact as
7 COVID-19 vaccines become available.

8 (2) To access data to prioritize risk categories.

9 (3) To fill an empty COVID-19 appointment.

10 (d) Report of vaccine receipt.--A provider who has used data
11 from the registry shall report to the registry which registrants
12 have received the vaccine.

13 (e) Limitations on vaccine distribution.--A provider that
14 seeks to provide vaccines shall register under subsection (f).

15 (f) Provider registration.--In order to register as a
16 provider under this act, a provider shall:

17 (1) Affirm in a form and manner determined by the
18 department that the provider will provide priority access to
19 vaccine appointments to registrants who have been registered.

20 (2) Prior to opening an appointment for vaccination,
21 access the registry for an updated list of registrants who
22 are qualified and willing to access the vaccine.

23 (3) Provide the following information:

24 (i) Projected availability of COVID-19 vaccination
25 appointments.

26 (ii) The process on how to register for appointments
27 or contact the registrant directly to schedule the
28 appointment.

29 Section 5. Temporary regulations.

30 (a) Promulgation.--The department shall promulgate temporary

1 regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this act
2 which shall not be subject to:

3 (1) Sections 201, 202, 203, 204 and 205 of the act of
4 July 31, 1968 (P.L.769, No.240), referred to as the
5 Commonwealth Documents Law.

6 (2) Sections 204(b) and 301(10) of the act of October
7 15, 1980 (P.L.950, No.164), known as the Commonwealth
8 Attorneys Act.

9 (3) The act of June 25, 1982 (P.L.633, No.181), known as
10 the Regulatory Review Act.

11 (b) Expiration.--The department's authority to adopt
12 temporary regulations under subsection (a) shall expire two
13 years after the effective date of this section. Regulations
14 adopted after this period shall be promulgated as provided by
15 law.

16 (c) Publication.--The department shall publish initial
17 temporary regulations no later than 30 days after the effective
18 date of this section.

19 Section 6. Effective date.

20 This act shall take effect immediately.