

# ASSEMBLY, No. 5144

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 14, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Recognizes right of minors aged 14 years or older to consent to vaccination.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



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1 AN ACT concerning the vaccination of minors 14 years of age or  
2 older and supplementing Title 9 of the Revised Statutes.

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4 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rule, or  
8 regulation to the contrary, a minor who is 14 years of age or older  
9 shall have the right to have administered thereto, by a licensed  
10 health care practitioner or properly authorized pharmacist, an  
11 adequate dose or doses of an immunizing agent, vaccine, or booster  
12 shot for poliomyelitis, mumps, measles, diphtheria, rubella,  
13 varicella, Haemophilus influenza type b (Hib), pertussis, tetanus,  
14 pneumococcal disease, meningococcal disease, human  
15 papillomavirus (HPV), or hepatitis B, regardless of whether the  
16 minor's parent or guardian consents to the administration of the  
17 immunizing agent, vaccine, or booster shot. The minor, in such a  
18 case, shall be deemed to have the same legal capacity to act, and the  
19 same powers and obligations as a person of legal age, and the  
20 minor's consent to the administration of an immunizing agent,  
21 vaccine, or booster shot shall be valid and binding as if the minor  
22 had attained the age of majority, and shall not be subject to later  
23 disaffirmance because of minority.

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25 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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30 This bill would provide that a minor who is 14 years of age or  
31 older has the right to consent to vaccination for certain  
32 communicable diseases. Existing law already authorizes married  
33 minors and pregnant minors of any age to consent to their own  
34 medical or surgical treatment, and it authorizes minors 17 years of  
35 age or older to consent to blood donation.

36 The bill provides, in particular, that a minor who is 14 years of  
37 age or older has the right to have administered thereto, by a licensed  
38 health care practitioner or properly authorized pharmacist, an  
39 adequate dose or doses of an immunizing agent, vaccine, or booster  
40 shot for poliomyelitis, mumps, measles, diphtheria, rubella,  
41 varicella, Haemophilus influenza type b (Hib), pertussis, tetanus,  
42 pneumococcal disease, meningococcal disease, human  
43 papillomavirus (HPV), or hepatitis B, regardless of whether the  
44 minor's parent or guardian consents to the administration of the  
45 immunizing agent, vaccine, or booster shot. The minor, in such a  
46 case, will have the same legal capacity to act, and the same powers  
47 and obligations as a person of legal age, and the minor's consent to  
48 the administration of an immunizing agent, vaccine, or booster shot

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1 will be valid and binding as if the minor had attained the age of  
2 majority, and will not be subject to later disaffirmance because of  
3 minority. The consent of the minor's parent or guardian, therefore,  
4 will not be required.