

ASSEMBLY, No. 2821

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 20, 1997

By Assemblymen ROCCO and DeSOPO

1 AN ACT requiring childhood immunizations for hepatitis B and
2 supplementing Title 26 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. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services shall require
8 the immunization of a child for hepatitis B as a condition of attendance
9 at a public or private school, licensed child care center, nursery school,
10 preschool or kindergarten in this State under regulations set forth at
11 N.J.A.C.8:57-4.1 et seq. which stipulate the requirements for
12 childhood immunizations as established by the commissioner. The
13 provisions of these regulations governing the applicability of
14 immunization requirements, proof of immunization, medical and
15 religious exemptions, provisional admission to a school, preschool or
16 child care center, documents accepted as evidence of immunization,
17 records required and available for inspection and reports to be
18 furnished to the Department of Health and Senior Services, and the
19 provision of necessary equipment, materials and services for
20 immunizing children at public expense by a board of education or a
21 local board of health, shall apply to immunizations for hepatitis B.

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23 2. Beginning with the 1997-98 school year, a principal, director or
24 other person in charge of a public or private school, licensed child care
25 center, nursery school, preschool or kindergarten in this State shall not
26 knowingly admit or retain a child whose parent or guardian has not
27 submitted acceptable evidence of the child's immunization for hepatitis
28 B as provided by regulation of the Commissioner of Health and Senior
29 Services.

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31 3. A child born on or after the effective date of this act, unless
32 medically contraindicated, shall receive three doses of a live hepatitis
33 B vaccine, or a vaccine combination containing live hepatitis B
34 vaccine, administered as follows:

35 (1) the first dose recommended at birth but no later than two
36 months of age;

37 (2) the second dose at two months of age if the first dose has been

1 administered between birth and one month of age, but no earlier than
2 one month after the first dose; and

3 (3) the third dose no earlier than two months after the second dose
4 and four months after the first dose, but no earlier than six months of
5 age.

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7 4. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, pursuant to
8 the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
9 seq.), shall adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of
10 this act.

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12 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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17 This bill requires the immunization of a child for hepatitis B as a
18 condition of attendance at a public or private school, licensed child
19 care center, nursery school, preschool or kindergarten in this State
20 under regulations set forth at N.J.A.C.8:57-4.1 et seq. which stipulate
21 the requirements for childhood immunizations as established by the
22 Commissioner of Health and Senior Services. The provisions of these
23 regulations governing the applicability of immunization requirements,
24 proof of immunization, medical and religious exemptions, provisional
25 admission to a school, preschool or child care center, documents
26 accepted as evidence of immunization, records required and available
27 for inspection and reports to be furnished to the Department of Health
28 and Senior Services, and the provision of necessary equipment,
29 materials and services for immunizing children at public expense by a
30 board of education or a local board of health, shall apply to
31 immunizations for hepatitis B.

32 Beginning with the 1997-98 school year, the bill prohibits a
33 principal, director or other person in charge of a public or private
34 school, licensed child care center, nursery school, preschool or
35 kindergarten in this State from knowingly admitting or retaining a
36 child whose parent or guardian has not submitted acceptable evidence
37 of the child's immunization for hepatitis B as provided by regulation
38 of the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services.

39 The bill further provides that a child born on or after the effective
40 date of the bill, unless medically contraindicated, shall receive three
41 doses of a live hepatitis B vaccine, or a vaccine combination
42 containing live hepatitis B vaccine, administered as follows:

43 (1) the first dose recommended at birth but no later than two
44 months of age;

45 (2) the second dose at two months of age if the first dose has been
46 administered between birth and one month of age, but no earlier than

- 1 one month after the first dose; and
- 2 (3) the third dose no earlier than two months after the second dose
- 3 and four months after the first dose, but no earlier than six months of
- 4 age.
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- 9 Requires hepatitis B immunization for admission to a public or private
- 10 school, preschool or child care center.