
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1703

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Cody, Pedersen, Green, White, Wood, Bailey, Moeller, Morrell, Walsh, Nelson, and Kenney)

READ FIRST TIME 02/18/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to child immunization exemptions; and amending RCW
2 28A.210.090.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.210.090 and 1991 c 3 s 290 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Any child shall be exempt in whole or in part from the
7 immunization measures required by RCW 28A.210.060 through 28A.210.170
8 upon the presentation of any one or more of the following, on a form
9 prescribed by the department of health:

10 ~~((1))~~ (a) A ~~((written certification))~~ certificate of exemption
11 signed by ~~((any physician licensed to practice medicine pursuant to~~
12 ~~chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW))~~ a health care practitioner stating that a
13 particular vaccine or vaccines required by rule of the state board of
14 health is or are, in his or her medical judgment, not advisable for the
15 child: PROVIDED, That when it is determined that ~~((this))~~ a particular
16 vaccine is no longer contraindicated, the child will be required to
17 have the vaccine;

18 ~~((2))~~ (b) A ~~((written certification))~~ certificate of exemption
19 signed by any parent or legal guardian of the child, or ~~((any adult in~~

1 ~~loco parentis to the child))~~ other person authorized by rules of the
2 state board of health, stating that the religious beliefs of the
3 signator are contrary to the required immunization measures; (~~and~~)) or
4 ((+3)) (c) A (~~written certification~~) certificate of exemption
5 that includes both:

6 (i) A certification signed and dated by any parent or legal
7 guardian of the child or (~~any adult in loco parentis to the child that~~
8 ~~the signator has either~~) other person authorized by rules of the state
9 board of health, requesting the exemption on the basis of a
10 philosophical or personal (~~objection to the immunization of the~~
11 ~~child~~) belief that includes the following:

12 (A) The particular vaccine or vaccines for which an exemption is
13 being requested, and an explanation of the reasons for requesting the
14 exemption;

15 (B) A short explanation that sets forth the strength and duration
16 of the belief that a vaccination or immunization is inappropriate for
17 the child and demonstrates some understanding of the risks and benefits
18 of vaccination to the child and to public health; and

19 (C) An acknowledgement that the child may be prohibited from
20 attending school during an outbreak of a disease for which the child
21 has not been immunized; and

22 (ii) A certification signed and dated by a health care practitioner
23 stating that the parent, legal guardian, or other person authorized by
24 rules of the state board of health received information about the
25 benefits and risks of immunization.

26 (2) For purposes of this section, "health care practitioner" means
27 a physician licensed to practice medicine under chapter 18.71 or 18.57
28 RCW, a naturopath licensed under chapter 18.36A RCW, a physician
29 assistant licensed under chapter 18.71A or 18.57A RCW, or an advanced
30 registered nurse practitioner licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW.

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