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**SENATE BILL 5841**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Cleveland, Hunt, Darneille, Keiser, Randall, Conway, Kuderer, Van De Wege, Nguyen, and Pedersen

Read first time 02/06/19. Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to protection against vaccine-preventable disease  
2 outbreaks; and amending RCW 28A.210.090.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.210.090 and 2011 c 299 s 1 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 certifications  
9 required by this section, on a form prescribed by the department of  
10 health:

11 (a) A written certification signed by a health care practitioner  
12 that a particular vaccine required by rule of the state board of  
13 health is, in his or her judgment, not advisable for the child:  
14 PROVIDED, That when it is determined that this particular vaccine is  
15 no longer contraindicated, the child will be required to have the  
16 vaccine; or

17 (b) A written certification signed by any parent or legal  
18 guardian of the child or any adult in loco parentis to the child that  
19 the religious beliefs of the signator are contrary to the required  
20 immunization measures(~~(/—o#~~

1       ~~(c) A written certification signed by any parent or legal~~  
2 ~~guardian of the child or any adult in loco parentis to the child that~~  
3 ~~the signator has either a philosophical or personal objection to the~~  
4 ~~immunization of the child).~~

5       (2) (a) The form presented on or after July 22, 2011, must include  
6 a statement to be signed by a health care practitioner stating that  
7 he or she provided the signator with information about the benefits  
8 and risks of immunization to the child. The form may be signed by a  
9 health care practitioner at any time prior to the enrollment of the  
10 child in a school or licensed day care. Photocopies of the signed  
11 form or a letter from the health care practitioner referencing the  
12 child's name shall be accepted in lieu of the original form.

13       (b) A health care practitioner who, in good faith, signs the  
14 statement provided for in (a) of this subsection is immune from civil  
15 liability for providing the signature.

16       (c) Any parent or legal guardian of the child or any adult in  
17 loco parentis to the child who exempts the child due to religious  
18 beliefs pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of this section is not required  
19 to have the form provided for in (a) of this subsection signed by a  
20 health care practitioner if the parent or legal guardian demonstrates  
21 membership in a religious body or a church in which the religious  
22 beliefs or teachings of the church preclude a health care  
23 practitioner from providing medical treatment to the child.

24       (3) For purposes of this section, "health care practitioner"  
25 means a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW, a  
26 naturopath licensed under chapter 18.36A RCW, a physician assistant  
27 licensed under chapter 18.71A or 18.57A RCW, or an advanced  
28 registered nurse practitioner licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW.

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