

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 25-0593.01 Christy Chase x2008

HOUSE BILL 25-1027

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING MODIFICATIONS TO STATUTES GOVERNING DISEASE**
102 **CONTROL.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill amends various statutes governing the operations of the department of public health and environment (department) regarding disease control. Specifically, **sections 1 through 9** of the bill:

- Repeal the governor's expert emergency epidemic response committee (GEEERC);
- Direct the state board of health to review and approve the

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
February 7, 2025

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
February 6, 2025

department's emergency response and recovery plan every 3 years; and

- Require the executive director of the department or, if the executive director is not the chief medical officer, the chief medical officer to convene a group of subject matter experts to develop crisis standards of care to be used in responding to a public health emergency.

Sections 10 through 15 modify school immunization provisions as follows to:

- Allow the records of a physician assistant to be used to create a certificate of immunization for a student;
- Eliminate a provision regarding a plan for complying with immunization requirements since it is not one of the ways for complying with school immunization requirements;
- Repeal the 14-day period within which a student whose certificate of immunization is not up to date to comply with immunization requirements to attend school and instead direct the state board of health to establish a timeline for compliance that is no shorter than 14 days after notice of noncompliance is received;
- Extend from February 15 to April 15 the deadline for a school to distribute the annual letter to parents specifying the school's aggregate immunization rates and the immunization requirements applicable for the next school year;
- Remove gendered pronouns and replace them with gender-neutral language; and
- Repeal the requirement for schools to notify the department and the local public health agency when a student is suspended or expelled from school for noncompliance with immunization requirements.

Section 16 extends from July 15 to September 15 the date by which the department is required to submit to the general assembly an annual report summarizing health-care-associated infections data received from health facilities in the state.

Section 17 repeals the requirement for certain health-care providers to offer a hepatitis C screening test to individuals born between 1945 and 1965 and instead directs the state board of health to adopt standards, consistent with recommendations from the federal centers for disease control and prevention, for hepatitis C screening tests.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1-105, **add** (4) as

1 follows:

2 **25-1-105. Executive director - chief medical officer -**
3 **qualifications - salary - office - duties - crisis standards of care.**

4 (4) (a) IN THE EVENT OF A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY, IF THE GOVERNOR
5 AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND, IF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS NOT
6 THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER AGREE THAT
7 CRISIS STANDARDS OF CARE ARE NEEDED TO RESPOND TO THE PUBLIC
8 HEALTH EMERGENCY, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR, IF THE EXECUTIVE
9 DIRECTOR IS NOT THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, THE CHIEF MEDICAL
10 OFFICER SHALL:

11 (I) ASSEMBLE A GROUP OF SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS TO DEVELOP
12 CRISIS STANDARDS OF CARE FOR USE BY HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS AND
13 HEALTH-CARE FACILITIES IN RESPONDING TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH
14 EMERGENCY; AND

15 (II) ACTIVATE ALL OR PORTIONS OF THE CRISIS STANDARDS OF
16 CARE AS NEEDED DURING THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.

17 (b) UPON AGREEMENT OF THE GOVERNOR AND THE EXECUTIVE
18 DIRECTOR AND, IF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS NOT THE CHIEF MEDICAL
19 OFFICER, THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER THAT THE CRISIS STANDARDS OF
20 CARE ARE NO LONGER NEEDED TO RESPOND TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH
21 EMERGENCY, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR, IF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
22 IS NOT THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER SHALL
23 VACATE THE CRISIS STANDARDS OF CARE.

24 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1-108, **add** (1)(i)
25 as follows:

26 **25-1-108. Powers and duties of state board of health - rules -**
27 **definitions.** (1) In addition to all other powers and duties conferred and

1 imposed upon the state board of health by this part 1, the board has the
2 following specific powers and duties:

3 (i) (I) EVERY THREE YEARS, TO REVIEW AND AMEND, AS
4 NECESSARY, THE DEPARTMENT'S INTERNAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND
5 RECOVERY PLAN THAT ADDRESSES THE PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE TO ACTS
6 OF BIOTERRORISM, PANDEMIC INFLUENZA, AND EPIDEMICS CAUSED BY
7 NOVEL AND HIGHLY FATAL INFECTIOUS AGENTS.

8 (II) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (1)(i):

9 (A) "INTERNAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PLAN"
10 MEANS THE PORTION OF THE STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN
11 PREPARED AND UPDATED BY THE DEPARTMENT THAT SPECIFIES
12 OPERATIONS THAT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IF THERE IS AN OCCURRENCE OR
13 IMMINENT THREAT OF AN EMERGENCY EPIDEMIC.

14 (B) "STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN" MEANS THE PLAN
15 DEVELOPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-33.5-705 (2) BY THE OFFICE
16 OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN THE DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY
17 AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
18 TO ADDRESS THE PREPARATION, PREVENTION, MITIGATION, RESPONSE, AND
19 RECOVERY FROM EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS.

20 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal** 24-33.5-704.5
21 (1).

22 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-704.5,
23 **amend** (2) as follows:

24 **24-33.5-704.5. Continuity of operations plans - reports to**
25 **general assembly.** (2) Each department that administers a publicly
26 funded safety net program shall develop a continuity of operations plan
27 ~~The plan shall establish~~ THAT ESTABLISHES procedures for the response

1 by, and continuation of operations of, the department and the SAFETY NET
2 program in the event of an emergency epidemic. ~~Each department shall~~
3 ~~file its plan with the executive director of the department of public health~~
4 ~~and environment and shall update the plan at least annually.~~ In addition,
5 notwithstanding section 24-1-136 (11), each department shall submit a
6 report by March 1 of each year to the health and human services
7 ~~committee~~ COMMITTEES of the senate and the ~~public health care and~~
8 ~~human services committee~~ of the house of representatives, or any
9 successor committees, regarding the status of the department's plan, as
10 well as the status of any other plans or procedures of the department
11 regarding emergency and disaster preparedness.

12 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-3-1502, **repeal** (6)
13 as follows:

14 **2-3-1502. Definitions.** As used in this part 15, unless the context
15 otherwise requires:

16 (6) ~~"GEEERC" means the governor's expert emergency epidemic~~
17 ~~response committee created in section 24-33.5-704.5.~~

18 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-3-1503, **amend**
19 (1)(a) and (2) as follows:

20 **2-3-1503. Legislative emergency preparedness, response, and**
21 **recovery committee - creation - membership - duties.** (1) (a) There is
22 ~~hereby~~ created a legislative emergency preparedness, response, and
23 recovery committee. The legislative committee shall develop a plan for
24 the response by, and continuation of operations of, the general assembly
25 and the legislative service agencies in the event of an emergency
26 epidemic or disaster. The legislative committee shall cooperate and
27 coordinate with the division AND the department ~~and the GEEERC~~ in

1 developing the plan ~~The legislative committee shall develop~~ and SHALL
2 submit the plan to the speaker of the house of representatives, the
3 president of the senate, the governor, the executive director of the
4 department, AND the director of the division. ~~and the GEEERC no later~~
5 ~~than July 1, 2011.~~ The legislative committee shall meet at least annually
6 to review and amend the plan as necessary and shall provide any updated
7 plan to the ~~persons~~ INDIVIDUALS or entities specified in this ~~paragraph (a)~~
8 SUBSECTION (1)(a). The legislative committee may recommend legislation
9 pertaining to the preparedness, response, and recovery by, and
10 continuation of operations of, the general assembly and the legislative
11 service agencies in the event of an emergency epidemic or disaster. The
12 legislative committee shall provide information to and fully cooperate
13 with the division AND the department ~~and the GEEERC~~ in fulfilling its
14 duties under this section.

15 (2) In the event of an emergency epidemic or disaster that the
16 governor declares to be a disaster emergency pursuant to section
17 24-33.5-704, ~~C.R.S.~~, the legislative committee shall convene as rapidly
18 and as often as necessary to advise the speaker of the house of
19 representatives, the president of the senate, and the legislative service
20 agencies regarding reasonable and appropriate measures to be taken by
21 the general assembly and the legislative service agencies to respond to the
22 emergency epidemic or disaster and protect the public health, safety, and
23 welfare. The legislative committee shall communicate, cooperate, and
24 seek advice and assistance from the division AND the department ~~and the~~
25 ~~GEEERC~~ in responding to the emergency epidemic or disaster.

26 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-703, **repeal**
27 (2) as follows:

1 **24-33.5-703. Definitions.** As used in this part 7, unless the
2 context otherwise requires:

3 (2) ~~"Committee" means the governor's expert emergency epidemic~~
4 ~~response committee created in section 24-33.5-704.5.~~

5 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-711.5,
6 **amend** (1) as follows:

7 **24-33.5-711.5. Liability - limits on damages and compensation**
8 **- immunity for good faith compliance with rules and orders.**

9 (1) ~~Neither The state nor the members of the expert emergency epidemic~~
10 ~~response committee designated or appointed pursuant to section~~
11 ~~24-33.5-704.5 are~~ IS NOT liable for ~~any~~ A claim based upon the
12 ~~committee's~~ advice PROVIDED BY AN OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE OF A STATE
13 DEPARTMENT to the governor or the alleged negligent exercise or
14 performance of, or failure to exercise or perform, an act relating to an
15 emergency epidemic. Liability against ~~a member of the committee~~ AN
16 OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE OF A STATE DEPARTMENT may be found only for
17 wanton or willful misconduct or willful disregard of the best interests of
18 protecting and maintaining the public health. Damages awarded on the
19 basis of such liability shall not exceed one hundred thousand dollars for
20 any injury to or damage suffered by one person or three hundred thousand
21 dollars for an injury to or damage suffered by three or more persons in the
22 course of an emergency epidemic.

23 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-102, **amend**
24 (1)(b)(I) as follows:

25 **25-1.5-102. Epidemic and communicable diseases - powers and**
26 **duties of department - rules - definitions.** (1) The department has, in
27 addition to all other powers and duties imposed upon it by law, the

1 powers and duties provided in this section as follows:

2 (b) (I) To investigate and monitor the spread of disease that is
3 considered part of an emergency epidemic, as defined in section
4 24-33.5-703 (4), to determine the extent of environmental contamination
5 resulting from the emergency epidemic, and to rapidly provide
6 epidemiological and environmental information to the ~~governor's expert~~
7 ~~emergency epidemic response committee, created in section~~
8 ~~24-33.5-704.5~~ STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

9 **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-4-901, **repeal**
10 (1); and **add** (1.6) and (1.8) as follows:

11 **25-4-901. Definitions.** As used in this part 9, unless the context
12 otherwise requires:

13 (1) ~~"Certificate of immunization" means one of the following~~
14 ~~forms of documentation that include the dates and types of immunizations~~
15 ~~administered to a student:~~

16 (a) ~~A paper document that includes information transferred from~~
17 ~~the records of a licensed physician, registered nurse, or public health~~
18 ~~official; or~~

19 (b) ~~An electronic file or a hard copy of an electronic file provided~~
20 ~~to the school directly from the immunization tracking system, established~~
21 ~~pursuant to section 25-4-2403.~~

22 (1.6) "IMMUNIZATION RECORD" MEANS A PAPER OR ELECTRONIC
23 DOCUMENT FROM THE RECORDS OF A LICENSED PHYSICIAN, A PHYSICIAN
24 ASSISTANT AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-240-107 (6), AN
25 ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE, OR A PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIAL
26 THAT INCLUDES THE DATES AND TYPES OF IMMUNIZATIONS ADMINISTERED
27 TO A STUDENT.

1 (1.8) "OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE OF IMMUNIZATION" MEANS ONE OF
2 THE FOLLOWING FORMS OF DOCUMENTATION THAT INCLUDES THE DATES
3 AND TYPES OF IMMUNIZATIONS ADMINISTERED TO A STUDENT:

4 (a) INFORMATION FROM AN IMMUNIZATION RECORD TRANSFERRED
5 BY A LICENSED PHYSICIAN, A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AUTHORIZED
6 PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-240-107 (6), AN ADVANCED PRACTICE
7 REGISTERED NURSE, A PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIAL, OR A SCHOOL OFFICIAL
8 ONTO A PAPER OR ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THE OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE OF
9 IMMUNIZATION FORM CREATED AND MAINTAINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
10 PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT; OR

11 (b) AN ELECTRONIC FILE OR A HARD COPY OF AN ELECTRONIC FILE
12 PROVIDED TO THE SCHOOL DIRECTLY FROM THE IMMUNIZATION TRACKING
13 SYSTEM, ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 25-4-2403.

14 **SECTION 11.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-4-902, **amend**
15 (1) introductory portion, (1)(a), (2), (3), (4)(a)(II), and (4)(b); and **repeal**
16 (1)(b) as follows:

17 **25-4-902. Immunization prior to attending school -**
18 **standardized immunization information.** (1) A student shall not attend
19 any school in the state of Colorado on or after the dates specified in
20 section 25-4-906 (4) unless ~~he or she~~ THE STUDENT OR THE STUDENT'S
21 PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN has presented one of the following to the
22 appropriate school official:

23 (a) An up-to-date **OFFICIAL** certificate of immunization ~~from a~~
24 ~~licensed physician, physician assistant authorized pursuant to section~~
25 ~~12-240-107 (6), advanced practice registered nurse, or authorized~~
26 ~~representative of the department of public health and environment or a~~
27 ~~local public health agency~~ stating that the student has received

1 immunization against communicable diseases as specified by the state
2 board of health, based on recommendations of the advisory committee on
3 immunization practices of the centers for disease control and prevention
4 in the federal department of health and human services AMERICAN
5 ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS OR ITS SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION; or

6 (b) ~~A written authorization signed by one parent or legal guardian,~~
7 ~~an emancipated student, or a student eighteen years of age or older~~
8 ~~requesting that local public health officials administer the immunizations;~~
9 or

10 
11 (2) If the student's OFFICIAL certificate of immunization is not up
12 to date according to the requirements of the state board of health, the
13 parent or guardian OF THE STUDENT or, IF THE STUDENT IS EMANCIPATED
14 OR EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, the ~~emancipated student or the~~
15 ~~student eighteen years of age or older~~ shall submit to the school, within
16 ~~fourteen~~ THIRTY days after receiving direct personal notification that the
17 OFFICIAL certificate OF IMMUNIZATION is not up to date, documentation
18 INDICATING that the next required immunization has been given and THAT
19 INCLUDES a written plan for completion of all required immunizations.
20 The scheduling of immunizations in the written plan shall follow
21 medically recommended minimum intervals approved by the state board
22 of health. If the student begins but does not continue or complete the
23 written plan, ~~he or she~~ THE SCHOOL shall ~~be suspended or expelled~~
24 SUSPEND OR EXPEL THE STUDENT pursuant to this part 9.

25 (3) Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ subsection (1) of this
26 section, a school shall enroll a student who is in out-of-home placement
27 within five school days after receiving the student's education information

1 and records as required in section 22-32-138, ~~C.R.S.~~, regardless of
2 whether the school has received the items specified in subsection (1) of
3 this section. Upon enrolling the student, THE REQUIREMENTS OF
4 SUBSECTIONS (1) AND (2) OF THIS SECTION APPLY, AND the school shall
5 notify the student's legal guardian that, unless the school receives the
6 student's OFFICIAL certificate of immunization or a ~~written authorization~~
7 ~~for administration of immunizations~~ CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION within
8 fourteen days after the student enrolls, the school ~~shall~~ WILL suspend the
9 student until such time as the school receives the OFFICIAL certificate of
10 immunization or ~~the authorization~~ CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION.

11 (4) (a) On or before January 15, 2021, the department of public
12 health and environment shall develop and provide to the department of
13 education and the department of human services a standardized document
14 regarding childhood immunizations. The department of education and the
15 department of human services shall post the standardized immunization
16 document on their websites on or before January 31, 2021, and on or
17 before January 31 each year thereafter. The standardized document must
18 be updated annually and must include, but need not be limited to:

19 (II) A list of immunizations currently recommended for children
20 by the advisory committee on immunization practices of the centers for
21 disease control and prevention in the federal department of health and
22 human services and the recommended age at which each immunization
23 should be given, AS SPECIFIED BY THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH IN
24 ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION;

25 (4) (b) On or before ~~February 15, 2021~~ APRIL 15, 2026, and on or
26 before ~~February 15~~ APRIL 15 each year thereafter, a school shall include
27 on the document DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (4)(a) OF THIS SECTION the

1 school's specific immunization and exemption rates for the measles,
2 mumps, and rubella vaccine for the school's enrolled student population
3 for the prior school year compared to the vaccinated children standard
4 described in section 25-4-911. The school may include on the document
5 the school's specific immunization and exemption rates for any other
6 vaccine for the school's enrolled student population for the prior school
7 year. The school shall directly distribute the document to the parent or
8 legal guardian of each student enrolled in its school, emancipated
9 students, or students eighteen years of age or older, consistent with
10 section 25-4-903 (5).

11 **SECTION 12.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-4-902.5, **amend**
12 **(1)** as follows:

13 **25-4-902.5. Immunization prior to attending a college or**
14 **university - tuberculosis screening process development.** (1) Except
15 as provided in section 25-4-903, ~~no~~ A student shall NOT attend any college
16 or university in the state of Colorado on or after the dates specified in
17 section 25-4-906 (4) unless the student can present to the appropriate
18 official of the school ~~a~~ AN OFFICIAL certificate of immunization from a
19 licensed physician, licensed physician assistant authorized under section
20 12-240-107 (6), licensed advanced practice registered nurse, or authorized
21 representative of the department of public health and environment or
22 county, district, or municipal public health agency stating that the student
23 has received immunization against communicable diseases as specified
24 by the state board of health. ~~or a written authorization signed by one~~
25 ~~parent or guardian or the emancipated student or the student eighteen~~
26 ~~years of age or older requesting that local health officials administer the~~
27 ~~immunizations or a plan signed by one parent or guardian or the~~

~~emancipated student or the student eighteen years of age or older for receipt by the student of the required inoculation or the first or the next required of a series of inoculations within thirty days.~~

SECTION 13. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-4-903, **amend** (2) introductory portion, (2)(a), (2)(b)(II)(B), (2.2)(a)(III), (2.2)(b)(II), and (2.2)(b)(III) as follows:

25-4-903. Exemptions from immunization - rules. (2) ~~A~~ UNLESS A STUDENT IS EXEMPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, THE parent or legal guardian OF A STUDENT shall have ~~his or her~~ THE student immunized, ~~unless the student is exempted pursuant to this section, or an emancipated student or a student eighteen years of age or older~~ OR, IF A STUDENT IS EMANCIPATED OR EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, THE STUDENT shall have ~~himself or herself~~ THEMSELF immunized. ~~unless the student is exempted pursuant to this section.~~ A student is exempted from receiving the required immunizations in the following manner:

(a) By submitting to the student's school a completed certificate of medical exemption from a licensed physician, physician assistant authorized pursuant to section 12-240-107 (6), or advanced practice registered nurse that the physical condition of the student is such that one or more specified immunizations would endanger ~~his or her~~ THE STUDENT'S life or health or are medically contraindicated due to other medical conditions; or

(b) (II) (B) A complete certificate of nonmedical exemption must include the signature of a person who is authorized pursuant to title 12 to administer immunizations within ~~his or her~~ THE PERSON'S scope of practice to the student for whom the certificate of nonmedical exemption is sought. Nothing in this subsection (2)(b)(II)(B) requires a person

1 authorized pursuant to title 12 to administer immunizations within ~~his or~~
2 ~~her~~ THE PERSON'S scope of practice to sign a certificate of nonmedical
3 exemption. Notwithstanding any law or rule to the contrary, a body that
4 regulates the professional conduct of a person who is authorized pursuant
5 to title 12 to administer immunizations within ~~his or her~~ THE PERSON'S
6 scope of practice to the student for whom the certificate is sought shall
7 not order a disciplinary action against the person because the person
8 authorized to sign the certificate signed such certificate pursuant to this
9 subsection (2)(b)(II)(B). It is unlawful for the employer or ~~any~~ A
10 professional organization to retaliate against a person because the person
11 authorized to sign a certificate signed such certificate pursuant to this
12 subsection (2)(b)(II)(B).

13 (2.2) (a) (III) A person authorized pursuant to title 12 to
14 administer immunizations within ~~his or her~~ THE PERSON'S scope of
15 practice to the student for whom the certificate of nonmedical exemption
16 is sought and who signs the certificate of nonmedical exemption form
17 shall provide a copy of a completed certificate of nonmedical exemption
18 to the student's parent or legal guardian, the emancipated student, or the
19 student eighteen years of age or older.

20 (b) (II) A person authorized pursuant to title 12 to administer
21 immunizations within ~~his or her~~ THE PERSON'S scope of practice to the
22 student for whom the certificate of nonmedical exemption is sought and
23 who signs the certificate of nonmedical exemption shall submit the
24 nonmedical exemption data to the immunization tracking system created
25 in section 25-4-2403.

26 (III) Notwithstanding subsections (2.2)(b)(I) and (2.2)(b)(II) of
27 this section, a licensed physician, a physician assistant authorized

1 pursuant to section 12-240-107 (6), an advanced practice registered nurse,
2 or a person authorized pursuant to title 12 to administer immunizations
3 within ~~his or her~~ THE PERSON'S scope of practice is not subject to a
4 regulatory sanction for failing to submit medical exemption or
5 nonmedical exemption data to the immunization tracking system.

6 **SECTION 14.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend 25-4-904.5**
7 **as follows:**

8 **25-4-904.5. Annual alignment evaluation.** The department of
9 public health and environment shall annually evaluate the state's
10 immunization practices, including an examination of updated best
11 practices and guidelines recommended by the ~~advisory committee on~~
12 ~~immunization practices of the centers for disease control and prevention~~
13 ~~in the federal department of health and human services~~ AMERICAN
14 ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS OR ITS SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION. The state
15 board of health shall review the department of public health and
16 environment's annual evaluation and may update the state's immunization
17 practices pursuant to the department of public health and environment's
18 annual evaluation.

19 **SECTION 15.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend 25-4-905** as
20 follows:

21 **25-4-905. Immunization of indigent children.** (1) The county,
22 district, or municipal public health agency; a public health or school nurse
23 under the supervision of a licensed physician or physician assistant
24 authorized under section 12-240-107 (6); or the department of public
25 health and environment, in the absence of a county, district, or municipal
26 public health agency or public health nurse, shall provide, at public
27 expense to the extent that ~~funds are~~ FUNDING IS available, immunizations

1 required by this part 9 to each child whose parents or guardians cannot
2 afford to have the child immunized or, if emancipated, who cannot
3 ~~himself or herself~~ THEMSELF afford immunization and who has not been
4 exempted. The department of public health and environment shall provide
5 all vaccines necessary to comply with this section as far as ~~funds~~ FUNDING
6 will permit. Nothing in this section precludes the department of public
7 health and environment from distributing vaccines to physicians,
8 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AUTHORIZED UNDER SECTION 12-240-107 (6),
9 advanced practice registered nurses, or others as required by law or the
10 rules of the department. ~~No~~ AN indigent child shall NOT be excluded,
11 suspended, or expelled from school unless the immunizations have been
12 available and readily accessible to the child at public expense.

13 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part 9 to the
14 contrary, programs and services that provide immunizations to children
15 for communicable diseases shall be MADE available to a child regardless
16 of ~~his or her~~ THE CHILD'S race, religion, gender, ethnicity, national origin,
17 or immigration status.

18 **SECTION 16.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-4-906, **amend**
19 **(1), (2), and (4)** as follows:

20 **25-4-906. Certificate of immunization - forms.** (1) The
21 department of public health and environment shall provide official
22 certificates of immunization to the schools, private physicians, and
23 county, district, and municipal public health agencies. Upon the
24 commencement of the gathering of epidemiological information pursuant
25 to section 25-4-2403 to implement the immunization tracking system,
26 such form shall include a notice that informs a parent or legal guardian
27 that ~~he or she~~ THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN has the option to exclude

1 ~~his or her~~ THEIR infant's, child's, or student's immunization information
2 from the immunization tracking system created in section 25-4-2403. ~~A SCHOOL OFFICIAL MAY ACCEPT any immunization record provided by~~
3 ~~a licensed physician, registered nurse, or public health official may be~~
4 ~~accepted by the school official as certification~~ AS PROOF of immunization
5 if the information is transferred to the official certification of
6 immunization. ~~and verified by the school official.~~

8 (2) (a) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a)(II) OF THIS
9 SECTION, each school shall maintain on file an official certificate of
10 immunization for every student enrolled IN THE SCHOOL.

11 (II) IN LIEU OF AN OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE OF IMMUNIZATION, A
12 LICENSED CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL CAMP MAY MAINTAIN ON FILE AN
13 OUT-OF-STATE IMMUNIZATION RECORD FOR AN OUT-OF-STATE CAMPER
14 ATTENDING THE RESIDENTIAL CAMP.

15 (b) (I) WHEN A STUDENT WITHDRAWS, TRANSFERS, IS PROMOTED,
16 OR OTHERWISE LEAVES A SCHOOL, THE SCHOOL SHALL:

17 (A) UPON REQUEST, RETURN the OFFICIAL certificate ~~shall be~~
18 ~~returned~~ OF IMMUNIZATION to the parent or guardian OF A STUDENT or, IF
19 A STUDENT IS EMANCIPATED OR EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, TO the
20 ~~emancipated student; or student eighteen years of age or older when a~~
21 ~~student withdraws, transfers, is promoted, or otherwise leaves the school,~~
22 ~~or the school shall~~

23 (B) Transfer the OFFICIAL certificate OF IMMUNIZATION with the
24 student's school record to the new school.

25 (II) Upon a college or university student's request, the COLLEGE OR
26 UNIVERSITY SHALL FORWARD THE official certificate of immunization
27 ~~shall be forwarded~~ as specified by the student.

1 (4) All students enrolled in any school in Colorado on and after
2 August 15, 1979, shall furnish the required OFFICIAL certificate of
3 immunization or shall be suspended or expelled from school. Students
4 enrolling in school in Colorado for the first time on and after July 1, 1978,
5 shall provide a AN OFFICIAL certificate of immunization or shall be
6 excluded from school except as provided in section 25-4-903.

7 **SECTION 17.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-4-907, **repeal** (2)
8 as follows:

9 **25-4-907. Noncompliance.** (2) ~~In the event of suspension or~~
10 ~~expulsion of a student, school officials shall notify the state department~~
11 ~~of public health and environment or the county, district, and municipal~~
12 ~~public health agency. An agent of said department shall then contact the~~
13 ~~parent or guardian or the emancipated student or student eighteen years~~
14 ~~of age or older in an effort to secure compliance with this part 9 in order~~
15 ~~that the student may be reenrolled in school.~~

16 **SECTION 18.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-3-603, **amend**
17 (1) as follows:

18 **25-3-603. Department reports.** (1) Notwithstanding section
19 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), on or before ~~July 15, 2017~~ SEPTEMBER 15, 2025, and
20 each ~~July 15~~ SEPTEMBER 15 thereafter, the department shall submit to the
21 health and human services committees of the house of representatives and
22 of the senate, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, a report summarizing
23 the risk-adjusted health-facility data. The department shall post the report
24 on its website.

25 **SECTION 19.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-4-2005, **amend**
26 (1) as follows:

27 **25-4-2005. Hepatitis C testing - recommendations - definitions**

1 **- rules - repeal.** (1) (a) (I) The department recommends that each
2 primary health-care provider or physician, physician assistant, or nurse
3 practitioner who treats a patient in an inpatient or outpatient setting offer
4 a person born between the years of 1945 and 1965 a hepatitis C screening
5 test or hepatitis C diagnostic test unless the health-care provider providing
6 such services reasonably believes that:

7 ~~(a)~~ (A) The patient is being treated for a life-threatening
8 emergency;

9 ~~(b)~~ (B) The patient has previously been offered or has been the
10 subject of a hepatitis C screening; or

11 ~~(c)~~ (C) The patient lacks capacity to consent to a hepatitis C
12 screening test.

13 (II) THIS SUBSECTION (1)(a) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026.

14 (b) (I) THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH CREATED IN SECTION
15 25-1-103 SHALL ADOPT RULES ESTABLISHING STANDARDS FOR HEPATITIS
16 C SCREENING AND DIAGNOSTIC TESTS FOR USE BY PRIMARY HEALTH-CARE
17 PROVIDERS, PHYSICIANS, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS, OR NURSE
18 PRACTITIONERS WHO TREAT PATIENTS IN AN INPATIENT OR OUTPATIENT
19 SETTING. THE BOARD SHALL ENSURE THAT THE SCREENING AND
20 DIAGNOSTIC TEST STANDARDS ALIGN WITH RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
21 FEDERAL CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION FOR HEPATITIS
22 C SCREENING AND DIAGNOSTIC TESTING.

23 (II) THE RULES ADOPTED BY THE BOARD PURSUANT TO THIS
24 SUBSECTION (1)(b) SHALL TAKE EFFECT ON JULY 1, 2026.

25 **SECTION 20. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
26 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
27 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for

- 1 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
- 2 institutions.