## Florida Senate - 2002

By Senator Pruitt

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27-819-02 A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to immunizations; requiring certain postsecondary students to be vaccinated 3 4 against meningococcal disease; providing 5 exemptions; providing that institutions of 6 higher education need not provide or pay for 7 such vaccinations; providing for rulemaking; providing an effective date. 8 9 10 WHEREAS, meningococcal disease is a serious disease that can lead to death within only a few hours of onset, and 11 12 WHEREAS, meningococcal disease is a highly contagious but largely preventable infection of the spinal cord fluid and 13 the fluid that surrounds the brain, and 14 WHEREAS, 1 in 10 cases of meningococcal disease is 15 fatal, and 16 WHEREAS, one in seven survivors is left with a severe 17 handicap, such as the loss of a limb, mental retardation, 18 19 paralysis, deafness, and seizures, and 20 WHEREAS, people of any age can carry the disease for days, weeks, or months without knowing it and without becoming 21 22 ill, and WHEREAS, at any time, around 10 percent to 25 percent 23 of the population are carriers, and 24 WHEREAS, scientific evidence suggests that college 25 students living in dormitory facilities are six times more 26 27 likely to get the deadly disease of meningitis, and 28 WHEREAS, immunization against meningococcal disease will decrease the risk of the disease, and 29 30

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1 WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature finds that college 2 freshmen residing in on-campus housing should be vaccinated 3 against meningococcal disease, NOW, THEREFORE, 4 5 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: б 7 Meningococcal disease; vaccination Section 1. 8 requirements; exemption. --9 (1) Any individual enrolled in an institution of 10 higher education who resides in on-campus housing shall be 11 vaccinated against meningococcal disease. (2) An institution of higher education shall provide 12 detailed information on the risks associated with 13 meningococcal disease and the availability and effectiveness 14 of any vaccine to individuals who wish to be exempted from the 15 vaccination requirement. An individual is exempt from the 16 17 vaccination requirement set forth in subsection (1) if: The individual is 18 years of age or older and he 18 (a) 19 or she signs a waiver in a form adopted by the department, by rule, which states that the individual has received and 20 21 reviewed the information provided and has chosen not be vaccinated against meningococcal disease; or 22 23 (b) The individual is a minor and his or her parent or guardian signs a written waiver in a form adopted by the 24 department, by rule, which states that the parent or guardian 25 has received and reviewed the information provided and has 26 27 chosen to not have the individual vaccinated against 28 meningococcal disease. 29 This section does not require any institution of (3) 30 higher education to provide or pay for vaccinations against 31 meningococcal disease.

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(4) The Department of Health, in consultation with the         Department of Education, shall adopt rules necessary to         administer this section.         Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.	i	1
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4       Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.         5       ************************************	2	Department of Education, shall adopt rules necessary to
5       ************************************	3	administer this section.
<pre>6 7 7 8 8 9 9 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 11 11 11 11 11</pre>	4	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.
0       SENATE SUMMARY         8       Requires postsecondary students who reside in on-campus housing to be vaccinated against meningococcal disease.         9       Provides exemptions. Provides that institutions of higher education are not requires the Department of Health, in consultation. Requires the Department of Education, to adopt implementing rules.         10       vaccination with the Department of Education, to adopt implementing rules.         11       implementing rules.         12       1         13       1         14       1         15       1         16       1         17       1         18       1         19       1         20       1         21       1         22       1         23       1         24       1         25       1         26       1         27       1         28       1         29       1         21       1         22       1         23       1         24       1         25       1         26       1         31       1	5	
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