

CHAMBER ACTION

1 The Health Care General Committee recommends the following:

2
3 **Council/Committee Substitute**

4 Remove the entire bill and insert:

5 A bill to be entitled

6 An act relating to routinely recommended childhood
7 vaccines; requiring the University of Miami, in
8 conjunction with regional autism centers, to conduct a
9 study; providing the goal of the study; providing for
10 consultation with other schools; requiring a report to the
11 Governor and the Legislature; requiring the Department of
12 Health to prepare a notice to be displayed in specified
13 locations where routinely recommended childhood vaccines
14 are administered to children in a specified age group;
15 specifying contents of the notice; requiring certain
16 health care practitioners that administer such vaccines to
17 post the notice; providing an effective date.

18
19 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

20
21 Section 1. Autism study.--The University of Miami, in
22 conjunction with the regional autism centers established under
23 s. 1004.55, Florida Statutes, shall conduct an autism

HB 491

2006
CS

24 epidemiology study and a review of the current published
25 scientific literature relating to autism. The goal of the study
26 is to gain a better understanding of the prevalence of autism in
27 the state; the unique demographic characteristics of the
28 autistic population; the role that family history plays in the
29 development of autism; the effect of routinely recommended
30 childhood vaccines containing the preservative thimerosal, other
31 environmental exposure to mercury, and exposure to other toxic
32 chemicals on children; and other factors that may have an impact
33 on the development of autism in children. The university may
34 consult with other Florida university medical schools and
35 colleges or schools of pharmacy in conducting this study. The
36 university shall submit a report of its findings to the
37 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker the House
38 of Representatives by October 1, 2007.

39 Section 2. Department of Health; administration of
40 routinely recommended childhood vaccines; notice.--The
41 Department of Health shall prepare a notice for display by all
42 health care practitioners as defined in s. 456.001(4), Florida
43 Statutes, who administer routinely recommended childhood
44 vaccines to children under 3 years of age. The notice shall be
45 written in simple language so that it is easily understandable
46 by the general population. The notice shall be made available in
47 both English and Spanish and shall contain, at a minimum:

48 (1) A statement indicating that childhood vaccines
49 routinely recommended by health care practitioners may contain
50 thimerosal, a preservative that contains mercury.

HB 491

2006
CS

51 (2) A statement declaring the official position of the
52 United States Public Health Service on the presence of
53 thimerosal in routinely recommended childhood vaccines.

54 (3) The Internet website address of the Department of
55 Health pertaining to routinely recommended childhood vaccines
56 and immunizations.

57 (4) The Internet website addresses of the Centers for
58 Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of
59 Health pertaining to the most current scientific information
60 regarding the use of thimerosal in routinely recommended
61 childhood vaccines.

62 Section 3. Notice to the public.--A health care
63 practitioner as defined in s. 456.001(4), Florida Statutes, who
64 administers routinely recommended childhood vaccines to children
65 under 3 years of age shall display in the office or location
66 where the vaccinations take place a notice prepared by the
67 Department of Health containing specific information regarding
68 vaccines pursuant to section 2. The notice shall be displayed in
69 a location conspicuous to the public or as required by the
70 department.

71 Section 4. This act shall take effect January 1, 2007.