
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 618 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY PHILLIPS-HILL, BROOKS, J. WARD, REGAN, SCAVELLO,
DUSH, HUTCHINSON, MARTIN, K. WARD, BARTOLOTTA, AUMENT,
MASTRIANO, YAW, PITTMAN, STEFANO AND BAKER, MAY 5, 2021

AS AMENDED ON SECOND CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
JUNE 22, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for vaccinations and for
3 disease prevention and control.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Title 35 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
7 Statutes is amended by adding chapters to read:

8 CHAPTER 59

9 VACCINATIONS

10 Sec.

11 5901. Definitions.

12 5902. Requirement to show proof of vaccination prohibited.

13 5903. COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION ON IDENTIFICATION CARDS

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14 PROHIBITED.

15 § 5901. Definitions.

16 As used in this chapter, the following words and phrases

1 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
2 context clearly indicates otherwise:

3 "COVID-19." ~~The novel coronavirus as identified in the~~ <--
4 ~~Governor's Proclamation of Disaster Emergency issued on March 6,~~
5 ~~2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020). A RESPIRATORY <--~~
6 DISEASE CAUSED BY THE SARS-COV-2 VIRUS DISCOVERED IN 2019.

7 "Government entity." A Commonwealth agency or political
8 subdivision.

9 "Institution of higher education." A postsecondary
10 institution of higher education ~~receiving State funding through~~ <--
11 ~~the annual appropriations process. THAT RECEIVES STATE FUNDS TO <--~~
12 PROVIDE EDUCATION AND TRAINING, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT A
13 BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE IS OFFERED BY THE
14 INSTITUTION. THE TERM INCLUDES AN INSTITUTION THAT ACCEPTS
15 GRANTS FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE AGENCY.

16 "Political subdivision." A county, city, borough,
17 incorporated town, township or school district of this
18 Commonwealth or an agency designated to act on behalf of a
19 political subdivision.

20 § 5902. Requirement to show proof of vaccination prohibited.

21 ~~No government entity or institution of higher education shall <--~~
22 ~~require proof of vaccination against COVID 19 to use any~~
23 ~~service, enter any building or undertake any activity within the~~
24 ~~territorial limits or the jurisdiction of the government entity.~~

25 (A) GOVERNMENT ENTITIES.--NO GOVERNMENT ENTITY SHALL REQUIRE <--
26 PROOF OF VACCINATION AGAINST COVID-19 TO USE ANY SERVICE, ENTER
27 ANY BUILDING OR UNDERTAKE ANY ACTIVITY WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL
28 LIMITS OR THE JURISDICTION OF THE GOVERNMENT ENTITY.

29 (B) INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.--NO INSTITUTION OF
30 HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL REQUIRE PROOF OF VACCINATION AGAINST

1 COVID-19 TO USE ANY SERVICE, ENTER ANY BUILDING OR UNDERTAKE ANY
2 ACTIVITY, INCLUDING ATTENDING CLASS IN PERSON, IN A FACILITY
3 WITHIN THE CONTROL OR OWNERSHIP OF THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
4 EDUCATION.

5 § 5903. COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION ON IDENTIFICATION CARDS <--
6 PROHIBITED.

7 A GOVERNMENT ENTITY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION MAY NOT DO ANY
8 OF THE FOLLOWING:

9 (1) INCLUDE INFORMATION ON AN IDENTIFICATION CARD OR
10 ELECTRONIC TRACKING SYSTEM REGARDING WHETHER THE HOLDER OF
11 THE IDENTIFICATION CARD HAS RECEIVED A VACCINATION AGAINST
12 COVID-19.

13 (2) EXPEND FUNDS TO DEVELOP AN ELECTRONIC TRACKING
14 SYSTEM FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS OR HAS NOT RECEIVED A
15 VACCINATION AGAINST COVID-19.

16 CHAPTER 60

17 DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

18 Sec.

19 6001. Duties of Secretary of Health.

20 § 6001. Duties of Secretary of Health.

21 ~~Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including the act~~ <--
22 ~~of April 23, 1956 (1955 P.L.1510, No.500), known as the Disease~~
23 ~~Prevention and Control Law of 1955, the Secretary of Health may~~
24 ~~not order or otherwise require a closure or order or otherwise~~
25 ~~require an individual that has not been exposed or potentially~~
26 ~~exposed to a contagious disease to do any of the following:~~

27 ~~(1) Physically distance from other individuals.~~

28 ~~(2) Wear a universal face covering.~~

29 ~~(3) Conduct a specific hygienic practice.~~

30 ~~(4) (3) Shelter in place, quarantine or isolate from~~

1 other individuals.

2 ~~(5) Restrict travel.~~

3 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, INCLUDING THE ACT <--

4 OF APRIL 23, 1956 (1955 P.L.1510, NO.500), KNOWN AS THE DISEASE

5 PREVENTION AND CONTROL LAW OF 1955, THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH MAY

6 NOT DO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

7 (1) ORDER OR OTHERWISE REQUIRE A CLOSURE.

8 (2) ORDER OR OTHERWISE REQUIRE AN INDIVIDUAL THAT HAS

9 NOT BEEN EXPOSED OR POTENTIALLY EXPOSED TO A CONTAGIOUS

10 DISEASE TO DO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

11 (I) PHYSICALLY DISTANCE FROM OTHER INDIVIDUALS.

12 (II) WEAR A UNIVERSAL FACE COVERING.

13 (III) CONDUCT A SPECIFIC HYGIENIC PRACTICE.

14 (IV) SHELTER IN PLACE, QUARANTINE OR ISOLATE FROM

15 OTHER INDIVIDUALS.

16 (V) RESTRICT TRAVEL.

17 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.