

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 2060  
By: Laubenberg  
Public Health  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

The recent shortage of influenza vaccines alarmed citizens across the country and many in the public health arena to question whether federal and state governments are prepared to avert any potential future shortages. Since there are many issues involved in the vaccine manufacturing process the proposed legislation would allow for discussion and recommendations on the state's vaccine purchasing policies and consider alternatives that could positively impact immunization rates and ensure adequate vaccine supply.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

Establishes the Interim Joint Committee on Vaccine Shortages that is composed of members of the House appointed by the Speaker and members of the Senate appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, who jointly decide the number of members and select the presiding and assistant presiding officers from among the committee members. The Committee may designate other officers as appropriate.

The Committee will conduct studies and make findings and recommendations regarding issues relating to the flu vaccine shortage, and other shortages of vaccines in the state, including the impact of state policy on the vaccine supply, and any modifications to state policy necessary to ensure an adequate supply of all vaccines.

The Department of State Health Services and any other agency must provide assistance and information, excluding confidential information to the Committee upon the Committee's request.

Expenses of the Committee, including compensation of staff, may be paid for by any appropriate funds of the House, Senate or a legislative agency. The Legislature may appropriate money for the Committee, and any legislative member, committee or agency may provide staff support and resources.

The Committee must file a report of the Committee's activities, findings and recommendations with the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker no later than December 1, 2006. The report must include any recommendations for legislative or administrative action.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2005.