

By: Hull

H.B. No. 1586

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an exemption from required immunizations for school enrollment.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Sections 161.0041(c), (d), and (e), Health and Safety Code, are amended to read as follows:

(c) The department shall develop a blank affidavit form for a person to use in claiming an exemption from a required immunization under this section and post the affidavit form in a printable format on the department's Internet website. A person claiming an exemption from a required immunization [~~under this section~~] may also [~~only~~] obtain the affidavit form by submitting a written request for the affidavit form to the department. A person may not be required to provide any information to obtain a blank affidavit form under this subsection.

(d) [~~The department shall develop a blank affidavit form that contains a seal or other security device to prevent reproduction of the form.~~] The affidavit form shall contain a statement indicating that the person or, if a minor, the person's parent, managing conservator, or guardian understands the benefits and risks of immunizations and the benefits and risks of not being immunized.

(e) The department may [~~shall~~] maintain a record of the total number of times an affidavit form was accessed on the

1 department's Internet website or requested under Subsection (c)
2 ~~[forms sent out each year and shall report that information to the~~
3 ~~legislature each year]~~. The department may not maintain a record of
4 any personally identifying information ~~[the names]~~ of individuals
5 who download, access, request, or submit an affidavit form under
6 this section.

7 SECTION 2. Not later than the 30th day after the effective
8 date of this Act, the Department of State Health Services shall
9 modify the existing affidavit form required by Section [161.0041](#),
10 Health and Safety Code, as amended by this Act.

11 SECTION 3. This Act applies beginning with the 2025-2026
12 school year.

13 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
15 provided by Section [39](#), Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
17 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.