

HB 1445 -- MISSOURI IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY

SPONSOR: Gatschenberger

Beginning January 1, 2015, this bill requires every immunization provider to submit all vaccination records of adults and children in Missouri to the Missouri Immunization Registry established and maintained by the Department of Health and Senior Services as part of the Missouri Immunization Program. The registry must provide protected access to all immunization providers and other authorized persons or entities seeking vaccination records from the registry.

Immunization records must not be included in the registry if an adult, a parent of a minor child, or a legal guardian of a minor child or adult completes an immunization registry opt-out form in accordance with rules promulgated by the Department of Health and Senior Services. An immunization provider is prohibited from submitting the immunization records of an adult or child if an immunization opt-out form has been completed for the adult or child.

The department must promulgate rules regarding the requirements and manner for submission of vaccination records by immunizations providers, including the ability of providers to update and amend vaccination records. Immunization providers must be the only registry users authorized to submit, update, and amend vaccination records in the registry and all other registry users must have read-only access to the records in the registry.

The registry must be maintained to ensure access to immunization providers, other states, and other authorized users for the purpose of:

- (1) Improving immunization rates for adults and children to prevent vaccine-preventable diseases in Missouri by providing immunization providers and authorized users with access to all vaccination records in one centralized registry;
- (2) Eliminating duplication in administration of immunizations;
- (3) Prompting immunization providers to follow the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommendations regarding the timing of immunizations for all age groups and reducing immunization provider errors in the timing of vaccinations;
- (4) Reducing costs associated with over-vaccination by providing immunization providers and authorized users with access to comprehensive vaccination records;

(5) Assessing compliance with immunization requirements for school-age children; and

(6) Providing immediate access to vaccination records in the event of an outbreak or epidemic and assisting disaster response systems in effectively and efficiently utilizing resources in case of an outbreak or epidemic.

The bill requires an immunization provider who is unable to electronically provide immunization data to the immunization registry by January 1, 2015, to submit a detailed plan for compliance with the requirements to the department no later than March 31, 2015. The department must assist the provider so the provider is able to electronically provide immunization data in a reasonable amount of time.

An immunization provider or other licensed or certified authorized user must be subject to sanction of his or her license or certificate for any violation of the provisions of the bill. Any person who violates this section must be subject to any applicable civil actions or penalties for damages resulting from the violation.