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1	H.212
2	Introduced by Representatives Dakin of Chester, Buxton of Tunbridge,
3	Christie of Hartford, Dickinson of St. Albans Town,
4	McCormack of Burlington, Miller of Shaftsbury, Poirier of
5	Barre City, Sullivan of Burlington, and Till of Jericho
6	Referred to Committee on
7	Date:
8	Subject: Health; public health; communicable diseases; immunizations
9	Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to remove the
10	philosophical and religious immunization exemptions.
11 12	An act relating to removal of the philosophical and religious immunization exemptions
13	It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:
14	Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 1122 is amended to read:
15	§ 1122. EXEMPTIONS
16	(a) Notwithstanding subsections 1121(a) and (b) of this title, a person may
17	remain in school or in the a child care facility without a required
18	immunization:
19	(1) If the person or, in the case of a minor, the person's parent or

guardian presents a form created by the department Department and signed by

1	a licensed health care practitioner authorized to prescribe vaccines or a health
2	clinic stating that the person is in the process of being immunized. The person
3	may continue to attend school or the child care facility for up to six months
4	while the immunization process is being accomplished;.
5	(2) If a health care practitioner, licensed to practice in Vermont and
6	authorized to prescribe vaccines, certifies in writing that a specific
7	immunization is or may be detrimental to the person's health or is not
8	appropriate, provided that when a particular vaccine is no longer
9	contraindicated, the person shall be required to receive the vaccine; or .
10	(3) If the person or, in the case of a minor, the person's parent or
11	guardian annually provides a signed statement to the school or child care
12	facility on a form created by the Vermont department of health that the person,
13	parent, or guardian:
14	(A) holds religious beliefs or philosophical convictions opposed to
15	immunization;
16	(B) has reviewed and understands evidence-based educational
17	material provided by the department of health regarding immunizations,
18	including information about the risks of adverse reactions to immunization;
19	(C) understands that failure to complete the required vaccination
20	schedule increases risk to the person and others of contracting or carrying a
21	vaccine-preventable infectious disease; and

1	(D) understands that there are persons with special health needs
2	attending schools and child care facilities who are unable to be vaccinated or
3	who are at heightened risk of contracting a vaccine-preventable communicable
4	disease and for whom such a disease could be life threatening.
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6	Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 1124 is amended to read:
7	§ 1124. ACCESS TO AND REPORTING OF IMMUNIZATION RECORDS
8	(a) In addition to any data collected in accordance with the requirements of
9	the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Vermont department of
10	health Department shall annually collect from schools the immunization rates
11	for at least those students in the first and eighth grades for each required
12	vaccine. The data collected by the department Department shall include the
13	number of medical, philosophical, and religious exemptions filed for each
14	required vaccine and the number of students with a provisional admittance.
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16	Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE
17	This act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.