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**Act No. 76 (H.545). An act relating to issuing immunization recommendations**

**Subjects: Health; liability; public health; immunizations; recommendations; standing orders; purchasing authority; insurance coverage**

This act temporarily pauses the State's reliance on immunization schedules recommended by the Centers for Disease Control's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. Instead, it grants the Commissioner of Health time-limited authority to issue recommended immunization schedules for both adults and children after consulting with the Vermont Immunization Advisory Council and reviewing the recommendations of various professional organizations, such as the Centers for Disease Control's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Academy of Family Physicians. This act authorizes the Commissioner to issue standing orders to health care professionals to prescribe, dispense, and administer immunizations recommended by the Commissioner to the extent that doing so is within the health care professional's scope of practice. It further provides immunity from civil and administrative liability to a health care professional who prescribes, dispenses, or administers an immunization recommended by the Commissioner for an immunization-caused adverse event, unless the health care professional's acts constituted gross negligence, recklessness, or intentional misconduct.

This act makes temporary changes to statutes addressing group health insurance policies, health benefit plans for individual and small group markets, and the regulation of pharmacists where these statutes previously either tied coverage for immunizations or pharmacy protocols to recommendations issued by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. The statutes are amended to return to their prior configuration on July 1, 2031, when the Commissioner's authority to issue recommended immunization schedules under this act is repealed.

Multiple effective dates, beginning on March 24, 2026