

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 An act relating to removal of the philosophical and religious immunization
12 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
20 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~~

