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129th Legislature (2018-2020)

History and Final Disposition

LD 798 / HP0586

An Act To Protect Maine Children and Students from Preventable Diseases by Repealing Certain Exemptions from the Laws Governing Immunization Requirements. Presented by Representative TIPPING of Orono. Referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. Public Hearing 03/13/19. Majority (OTP-AM) Report Accepted 05/02/19. Amended by: CA H-120. Final Disposition: Enacted, Signed 05/24/19, PUBLIC LAW, Chapter 154.

Original Bill

[LD 798 \(129th Legis. 2019\)](#)

Analyst's Summary of Bill and Enacted Law

[LD 798 / PL 2019, c. 154](#)

Committee Materials

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

- (Master file available on request—please include citation: cf129-LD-0798.pdf)
[Public Hearing \(committee page >> audio file\) \(LD 798\) \(EDU\) \(3/13/2019\)](#)
[Work Session \(committee page >> audio file\) \(LD 798\) \(EDU\) \(4/10/2019\)](#)
- (Click audio link on committee page. Audio files may cover several bills/papers)

New Drafts and Amendments

[Amendment CA \(H-120\) \(LD 798 2019\) \(Majority\) \(Passed\)](#)
[Amendment HA/CA \(H-141\) \(LD 798 2019\)](#)
[Amendment SA/CA \(S-66\) \(LD 798 2019\)](#)
[Amendment HB/CA \(H-317\) \(LD 798 2019\)](#)
[Amendment SB/CA \(S-140\) \(LD 798 2019\)](#)
[Amendment SC/CA \(S-141\) \(LD 798 2019\)](#)

Floor Proceedings and Debate

[HOUSE, February 12, 2019 \(H130-141\)](#)

- p. H-133

[SENATE, February 12, 2019 \(S151-163\)](#)

- p. S-160

[HOUSE, April 23, 2019 \(H390-413\)](#)

- p. H-392 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s) (p402 (2))) (Amendment(s) H-120, H-141 (p402))

[SENATE, April 30, 2019 \(S498-529\)](#)

- p. S-518 (Amendment(s) H-120)

[SENATE, May 2, 2019 \(S530-565\)](#)

- p. S-556 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s) (p563, p565)) (Amendment(s) H-120, S-66)

[HOUSE, May 7, 2019 \(H465-495\)](#)

- p. H-491 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s) (p492)) (Amendment(s) H-120,S-66)

[SENATE, May 9, 2019 \(S609-622\)](#)

- p. S-609 (Amendment(s) H-120, S-66)

[SENATE, May 14, 2019 \(S623-660\)](#)

- p. S-649 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s) (p656)) (Amendment(s) S-66, H-120)

[HOUSE, May 16, 2019 \(H564-583\)](#)

- p. H-581 (Amendment(s) H-120)

[HOUSE, May 21, 2019 \(H584-621\)](#)

- p. H-589 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s) (p596, p597)) (Amendment(s) H-120)

[HOUSE, May 23, 2019 \(H622-650\)](#)

- p. H-650 (Remarks)

[SENATE, May 23, 2019 \(S724-764\)](#)

- p. S-753 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s) (p755,756)) (Amendment(s) H-120)

Enacted Law or Resolve

[PL 2019, c. 154](#)

News Articles

Maine lawmaker wants to limit childhood vaccination exemptions (Abigail Curtis) (Bangor Daily News, 12/3/2018, p. B1, B2) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 181203A.pdf)

Advocates think bill to end most exemptions from childhood vaccinations has a shot (Joe Lawlor) (Portland Press Herald, 1/18/2019, p. A1, A4) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190118A.pdf)

To protect public health, end non-medical vaccine opt-outs (Dee A. Kerry) (Portland Press Herald, 3/6/2019, p. A4) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190306D.pdf)

Vulnerable Mainers pin hopes on bill to tighten vaccination standards (Joe Lawlor) (Portland Press Herald, 3/12/2019, p. A1, A6) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190312A.pdf)

Vaccination debate draws hundreds to Maine State House (Alex Acquisto) (Bangor Daily News, 3/14/2019, p. A1, A2) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 190314A.pdf)

Hundreds pack hearing on bill to end most exemptions for kids' vaccinations (Lawlor, Joe) (Portland Press Herald, 3/14/2019, p. A1, A5) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190314A.pdf)

As lawmakers debate stricter vaccination rules, Falmouth High has pertussis outbreak (Joe Lawlor) (Portland Press Herald, 3/16/2019, p. A1, A6) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190316A.pdf)

Vaccinations and the politics of fear and distrust (Amy Fried) (Bangor Daily News, 3/20/2019, p. A7) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 190320D.pdf)

Local legislators split on bill to limit vaccination exemptions (Stephen Betts) (Courier-Gazette, 3/21/2019, p. A6, A9) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Clip19192.pdf)

Vaccine benefits outweigh risks (Jill Goldthwait) (Ellsworth American, 3/21/2019, p. Sec. II, p.3) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Ellsworth American 190321B.pdf)

Take one for the team (Editorial) (Ellsworth American, 3/21/2019, p. Sec. II, p.3) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Ellsworth American 190321C.pdf)

Rampant vaccination misinformation poses real challenge to public (Andy O'Brien) (Free Press, 3/21/2019, p. B1, B3) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Free Press 190321A.pdf)

Viral shedding (Marion Tucker-Honeycutt) (Republican Journal, 3/21/2019, p. A5) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Republican Journal 190321C.pdf)

Committee pans controversial water bill - local vaccination bill opponents testify at hearing (Ethan Andrews) (Republican Journal, 3/21/2019, p. A3) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Republican Journal 190321E.pdf)

Vaccines are safe and necessary (Rebecca Boulos) (Bangor Daily News, 4/4/2019, p. A7) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 190404D.pdf)

Health experts alarmed by record rate of opt-outs for school-required vaccinations (Joe Lawlor) (Portland Press Herald, 4/6/2019, p. A1, A6) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190406A.pdf)

Bill to strip Maine vaccination exemptions moves ahead despite GOP opposition (Michael Shepherd) (Bangor Daily News, 4/11/2019, p. A1, A4) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 190411A.pdf)

Hancock County vaccination exemption rates among highest in state (Kate Cough) (Ellsworth American, 4/11/2019, p. Sec. I, p.1, 11) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Ellsworth American 190411D.pdf)

Panel endorses bill to end most vaccine exemptions for Maine schoolchildren (Joe Lawlor) (Portland Press Herald, 4/11/2019, p. A1, A8) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190411A.pdf)

CDC releases Maine immunization data (Editorial) (Quoddy Tides, 4/12/2019, p. 10) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Clip19264.pdf)

Constituents press Maine Democrat to back a bill that would limit vaccine exemptions (Lauren Abbate) (Bangor Daily News, 4/13/2019, p. B1, B3) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 190413D.pdf)

Health leaders voice concerns to Miramant over vaccine stand (Stephen Betts) (Courier-Gazette, 4/18/2019, p. A1, A9) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Courier-Gazette 190418A.pdf)

Bill to end non-medical vaccine exemptions advances (Kate Cough) (Ellsworth American, 4/18/2019, p. Sec. I, p.3) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Ellsworth American 190418E.pdf)

How vaccine hesitancy puts my family at risk (Heather Abbott) (Bangor Daily News, 4/23/2019, p. A5) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 190423D.pdf)

Maine House gives initial OK to removal of nonmedical vaccination exemptions (Alex Acquisto and Michael Shepherd) (Bangor Daily News, 4/24/2019, p. A1, A4) • (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 190424A.pdf)

Divided House passes bill to end most exemptions to school vaccine requirements (Scott Thistle) (Portland Press Herald, 4/24/2019, p. A1, A8) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190424A.pdf)

Maine Senate backs vaccine religious exemption, throwing fate of mandate bill into doubt (Michael Shepherd) (Bangor Daily News, 5/3/2019, p. A1, A2) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 190503A.pdf)

Senate passes bill that keeps religious exemptions to vaccines but clashes with House bill (Kevin Miller) (Portland Press Herald, 5/3/2019, p. A1, A8) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190503A.pdf)

Senate passes bill that keeps religious exemptions to vaccines but clashes with House bill (Kevin Miller) (Portland Press Herald, 5/3/2019, p. A1, A8) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190503A.pdf)

Religious exemption to vaccination wouldn't be keeping the faith (Joe Lawlor) (Portland Press Herald, 5/4/2019, p. A1, A8) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190504A.pdf)

Discord between Maine House and Senate could doom stricter vaccination rules (Michael Shepherd) (Bangor Daily News, 5/8/2019, p. A1, A2) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 190508B.pdf)

Vaccine bill again splits Maine House and Senate over religious exemption (Scott Thistle) (Portland Press Herald, 5/8/2019, p. A1, A8) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190508A.pdf)

Protecting our children (Waldo County residents) (Republican Journal, 5/9/2019, p. A4) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Republican Journal 190509C.pdf)

Old Town senator changes vote, clearing the way for stricter Maine vaccine mandate (Michael Shepherd) (Bangor Daily News, 5/15/2019, p. A1, A4) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 190515A.pdf)

Maine Senate reverses course, ends religious exemption for vaccines (Scott Thistle) (Portland Press Herald, 5/15/2019, p. A1, A8) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190515A.pdf)

Render unto Caesar (Editorial) (Ellsworth American, 5/16/2019, p. Sec. II, p.3) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Ellsworth American 190516C.pdf)

There's no vaccine to prevent an epidemic of legislative stupidity (Elliott Epstein) (Sun Journal, 5/19/2019, p. C8, C5) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Sun Journal 190519B.pdf)

Maine House GOP bid to stymie stricter school vaccination rules fails (Michael Shepherd) (Bangor Daily News, 5/22/2019, p. A1, A2) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 190522A.pdf)

Senate vote sends bill to end vaccine exemptions to governor's desk (Kevin Miller) (Portland Press Herald, 5/24/2019, p. A1, A8) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190524A.pdf)

Janet Mills signs bill ending religious and personal exemptions for vaccinations (The Associated Press) (Bangor Daily News, 5/27/2019, p. A1, A2) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 190527A.pdf)

Tighter vaccination law could spur increase in medical exemptions (Joe Lawlor) (Portland Press Herald, 5/29/2019, p. A1, A8) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/PPH 190529B.pdf)

New law tightening vaccination rules has an exception for special ed students (Eesha Pendharkar) (Bangor Daily News, 6/10/2019, p. A1, A6) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 190610C.pdf)

Maine's new vaccination law balances democracy and public health (Jennifer Wriggins) (Bangor Daily News, 7/6/2019, p. A7) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 190706A.pdf)

Immunization law opponents file for March vote (Ethan Andrews) (Free Press, 9/24/2019, p. 4) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Clip19487.pdf)

A new vaccine law will be on the Maine ballot 'Big Pharma' is opponents' villain (Jessica Piper) (Bangor Daily News, 1/27/2020, p. A1, A2) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/BDN 200127A.pdf)

Vaccines save lives vote no on Question 1 (Janet Mills) (Republican Journal, 2/6/2020, p. A4) ● (Available on request—please include citation: 129/LD07xx/nc129-LD-0798/Republican Journal 200206E.pdf)

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