

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MINORITY  
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
120TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 1163, L.D. 1563, Bill, "An Act to Amend School Immunizations Requirements"

Amend the bill in section 1 by striking out all of subsection 3 and inserting in its place the following:

'3. **Disease.** "Disease" means diphtheria, measles, mumps, pertussis, poliomyelitis, varicella, rubella and tetanus.'

Further amend the bill in section 2 in that part designated "**§6355.**" by striking out all of subsection 3 and inserting in its place the following:

'3. **Philosophical or religious exemption.** The parent states in writing a sincere religious belief ~~which~~ that is contrary to the immunization requirement of this subchapter or an opposition to the immunization for ~~moral~~, philosophical ~~or--other--personal~~ reasons.'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 3.

Further amend the bill in section 4 by striking out all of paragraph C and inserting in its place the following:

'C. "Disease" means diphtheria, measles, mumps, pertussis, poliomyelitis, varicella, rubella and tetanus.'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 5.

Further amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

2 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the  
summary the following:

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#### FISCAL NOTE

8 The Bureau of Health within the Department of Human Services  
and the Department of Education will incur some minor additional  
10 costs to work together to issue rules specifying those diseases  
for which immunization is required. These costs can be absorbed  
12 within the bureau's and the department's existing budgeted  
resources.'

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#### SUMMARY

18 This is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee  
on Education and Cultural Affairs.

20

22 This amendment lists varicella, commonly known as "chicken  
pox," among the other diseases listed in statute for which an  
immunization certificate is required for enrollment in public or  
24 private elementary or secondary school. The amendment also makes  
a technical correction by making the 2 definitions of "disease"  
26 consistent within the laws pertaining to immunization  
requirements for school enrollment. The amendment also repeals  
28 provisions that allow exemptions from immunization requirements  
for moral or other personal reasons while leaving in the  
30 exemptions for medical, religious or philosophical reasons. It  
also adds a fiscal note to the bill.