

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 414

H.P. 330

House of Representatives, January 29, 2007

An Act To Decrease Cervical Cancer in Maine Girls

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative FAIRCLOTH of Bangor.
Cosponsored by Representative SIMPSON of Auburn.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6355, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

3 **4. Human papillomavirus immunization.** The parent of a female child states in
4 writing that the parent has received the information provided by the Department of Health
5 and Human Services pursuant to Title 22, section 1066 regarding the connection between
6 the human papillomavirus and cervical cancer and the availability, effectiveness and
7 potential risks of the human papillomavirus vaccine, and that the parent has elected for
8 the child not to receive the human papillomavirus vaccine.

9 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §1066** is enacted to read:

10 **§1066. Human papillomavirus vaccine information**

11 No later than January 1, 2008, the department shall identify informational materials
12 regarding the connection between human papillomavirus and cervical cancer and the
13 availability, effectiveness and potential risks of the human papillomavirus vaccine. The
14 materials must include, but are not limited to, the vaccine information statement for the
15 human papillomavirus vaccine provided by the United States Department of Health and
16 Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The department shall
17 provide the materials to all family physicians and pediatricians licensed in the state and to
18 all public and private schools in the State, as defined in Title 20-A, section 1, that provide
19 grade 6 instruction. The department shall also post the materials on its publicly accessible
20 website.

21 **Sec. 3. Immunization against human papillomavirus.** The Department of
22 Health and Human Services and the Department of Education shall amend the rules
23 regarding immunization requirements for school children to require, effective for the start
24 of the 2008-2009 school year, that every female child entering grade 6 for the first time
25 be immunized against the human papillomavirus. The rules must allow for an exemption
26 from the human papillomavirus immunization requirement in accordance with the Maine
27 Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6355, subsection 4.

28 **Sec. 4. Effective date.** Section 1 of this Act takes effect August 1, 2008.

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill requires a female child entering grade 6 for the first time to be immunized
31 against the human papillomavirus, the virus that causes cervical cancer. This requirement
32 takes effect with the start of the 2008-2009 school year. The bill provides an exemption
33 from this requirement for a child whose parent states in writing that the parent has
34 received information provided by the Department of Health and Human Services
35 regarding cervical cancer and the human papillomavirus and has chosen for the child not
36 to receive the human papillomavirus vaccine. The bill requires that the department
37 identify that information by January 1, 2008, make it available to family physicians,
38 pediatricians and public and private schools that serve grade 6 and post the material on
39 the department's publicly accessible website.