Senate Bill 579
Sponsored by Senator KNOPP (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY
The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor’s brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Requires health care practitioner, before administering vaccination to child, to obtain informed consent from parent of child or, if child is emancipated or has reached age of majority, from child. Establishes requirements for obtaining informed consent.

A BILL FOR AN ACT
Relating to informed consent for vaccinations; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 433.267.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2017 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 433.235 to 433.284.

SECTION 2. (1) Before administering a vaccination to a child, a health care practitioner shall obtain informed consent from:

(a) The parent of the child; or

(b) If the child is emancipated or has reached the age of majority, the child.

(2) To obtain informed consent under this section, a health care practitioner must:

(a) Provide notice of the benefits and risks of each vaccination that the child is required to receive as a condition of attending a school or children’s facility in this state under ORS 433.267;

(b) If the child is receiving a vaccination, provide a copy of the vaccine information statement most recently published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for that vaccine;

(c) If the child is receiving a vaccination, make available for review the most recent edition of the Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

(d) If the child is receiving a vaccination, provide notice of how to file a petition for a claim pursuant to the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program established by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, including the contact information necessary to file a claim.

(3) The Oregon Health Authority shall adopt by rule the form and content of the notices required by subsection (2)(a) and (d) of this section.

SECTION 3. ORS 433.267 is amended to read:

433.267. (1) As a condition of [attendance in any] attending a school or children’s facility in this state, every child through grade 12 shall submit to the administrator of the school or facility, unless the school or facility the child attends already has on file a record that indicates that the child has received immunizations against the restrictable diseases prescribed by rules of the Oregon Health Authority [as provided in] pursuant to ORS 433.273, one of the following:

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in boldfaced type.

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(a) A document, signed by the parent of the child, [a practitioner of the healing arts who has
within the scope of the practitioner's license the authority] a health care practitioner who is au-
thorized under the laws of this state to administer immunizations or a representative of the local
health department, certifying the immunizations the child has received and documenting that in-
formed consent has been obtained under section 2 of this 2017 Act;
(b) A document, signed by a physician or a representative of the local health department, stating
that the child should be exempted from receiving a specified immunization because of [indicated
medical diagnosis] a medical condition; or
(c)(A) A document, on a form prescribed by the authority by rule and signed by the parent of
the child, stating that the parent is declining one or more immunizations on behalf of the child.
(B) A document submitted under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph:
[(A)] (i) May include the reason for declining the immunization, including whether the parent
is declining the immunization because of a religious or philosophical belief; and
[(B)] (ii) Must include either:
[(i)] (I) A signature from a health care practitioner verifying that the health care practitioner
has reviewed with the parent information about the risks and benefits of immunization that is con-
sistent with information published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the con-
tents of the vaccine educational module approved by the authority pursuant to rules adopted under
ORS 433.273; or
[(ii)] (II) A certificate verifying that the parent has completed a vaccine educational module
approved by the authority pursuant to rules adopted under ORS 433.273.
(2)(a) A newly entering child or a transferring child [shall be required to] must submit the doc-
ument described in subsection (1) of this section prior to attending the school or children's facility.
(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, a child transferring from a school in the
United States must submit the document [required by] described in subsection (1) of this section not
later than the exclusion date [set by rule of the authority] established by the authority by rule.
(3) [Persons who have] A person who has been emancipated pursuant to ORS 419B.558 or who
[have] has reached the age of consent for medical care pursuant to ORS 109.640 may sign [those
documents], on the person's own behalf, the document [on their own behalf] otherwise requiring
the [signatures of parents] signature of a parent under subsection (1) of this section.
(4) The administrator of a school or children's facility shall conduct a primary evaluation of
[the records] each document submitted [pursuant to] under subsection (1) of this section to deter-
mine whether the child is entitled to begin attendance by reason of having submitted a document
that complies with the requirements of subsection (1) of this section.
(5) If the [records do] document submitted by a child under subsection (1) of this section
does not meet the initial minimum requirements established by the authority by rule, the [child
may not be allowed to attend] administrator of the school or children's facility may not allow
the child to attend the school or facility until the requirements are met. If the [records meet]
document meets the initial minimum requirements, [the child shall be allowed to attend] the ad-
ministrator shall allow the child to attend the school or facility.
(6) At the time specified by the authority by rule, [records for children meeting] a document
that meets the initial minimum requirements as described in subsection (5) of this section and
records previously on file at the school or children's facility as described in subsection (1) of
this section shall be reviewed for [completion of requirements] compliance with this section by the
administrator of the school or facility to determine whether the child [is entitled to continue in

[2]
attendance] may continue to attend the school or facility. If the document or records do not comply, the administrator shall notify the local health department and [shall transmit any] submit the document or records [concerning the child’s immunization status] to the local health department.

(7) [The] A local health department shall [provide for a secondary evaluation of the records] evaluate a document or records submitted to the local health department under subsection (6) of this section to determine whether the child should be excluded for noncompliance with the requirements [stated in] of subsection (1) of this section. If the child is determined to be in noncompliance, the local health department shall issue an exclusion order and [shall] send copies of the order to the parent of the child or [the person who], if the child is emancipated or has reached the age of majority, the child, and the administrator of the school or children’s facility. On the effective date of the order, the administrator shall exclude the child from the school or facility and may not allow the child to attend the school or facility until the requirements of this section have been met.

(8) The administrator of the school or children’s facility shall readmit the child to the school or facility when in the judgment of the local health department the child is in compliance with the requirements of this section.

(9) The administrator of the school or children’s facility shall be responsible for updating [the] any document [described in] submitted under subsection (1)(a) of this section as necessary to reflect the current status of the immunization of the child who submitted the document and the time at which the child comes into compliance with immunizations against the restrictable diseases prescribed by rules of the authority pursuant to ORS 433.273.

(10) Nothing in this section shall be construed as relieving agencies, in addition to school districts, which are involved in the maintenance and evaluation of immunization records on April 27, 1981, from continuing [responsibility for these] to be responsible for such activities.

(11) All documents required by this section shall be on forms approved or provided by the authority.

(12) In lieu of signed documents from health care practitioners, the authority may accept immunization record updates using [practitioner documented] immunization records generated by electronic means or on unsigned [practitioner] letterhead if the authority determines such records are accurate.

(13) As used in this section:

(a) “Newly entering child” means a child who is initially attending:

(A) A children’s facility in this state;

(B) A school at the entry grade level;

(C) After receiving homeschooling, either a school at any grade level or a children’s facility [from homeschooling]; or

(D) After entering the United States from another country, a school at any grade level or a children’s facility [after entering the United States from another country].

(b) “Transferring child” means a child moving from:

(A) One children’s facility to another children’s facility;

(B) One school in this state to another school in this state, when the move is not the result of a normal progression of grade level; or

(C) A school in another state to a school in this state.

SECTION 4. The Oregon Health Authority shall adopt the form and content of the notices
required by section 2 of this 2017 Act on or before May 1, 2018.

SECTION 5. The amendments to ORS 433.267 by section 3 of this 2017 Act first apply to documents submitted to the administrator of a school or children's facility during the 2018-2019 school year.