

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

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SENATE BILL 876

Short Title: Meningitis Immunization. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Purcell; and Bingham.

Referred to: Health & Human Resources.

April 3, 2003

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE ANY PRIVATE OR PUBLIC INSTITUTION THAT
3 OFFERS A POSTSECONDARY DEGREE TO PROVIDE MENINGOCOCCAL
4 IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION TO NEWLY ENROLLED STUDENTS IF
5 THE INSTITUTION HAS A RESIDENTIAL CAMPUS.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a
8 new article to read:

9 "Article 32.

10 "Health Information.

11 "**§ 116-260. Information on meningococcal immunization.**

12 (a) Each public or private educational institution that offers a postsecondary
13 degree as defined in G.S. 116-15 and that has a residential campus shall provide
14 information on meningococcal disease to each student who enrolls for the first time at
15 that campus. The information about the meningococcal disease shall include all of the
16 following:

- 17 (1) Symptoms, risks, especially as the risks relate to circumstances of
18 group living arrangements, and treatment of the disease.
19 (2) A recommendation that each newly enrolled student receive the
20 vaccination to prevent the student from contracting the disease and
21 where the vaccination can be received.
22 (3) A response form with space in which to indicate that the newly
23 enrolled student has received the information about meningococcal
24 disease and the availability of the vaccine to prevent the student from
25 contracting the disease, whether or not he or she has chosen to receive
26 the vaccination and his or her signature. In the case of a student who is
27 a minor, the student's parent or guardian shall sign the response form
28 on behalf of the minor student.

1 **(b)** The student or the student's parent or guardian shall return the signed form to
2 the appropriate office at the educational institution before enrollment. The information
3 obtained under this section that is in the possession of the educational institution is
4 confidential and shall not be a public record under G.S. 132-1.

5 **(c)** This section shall not be construed to require the educational institution to
6 provide the meningococcal vaccination to students.

7 **(d)** Each educational institution required to provide information under this
8 section shall consult with the Department of Health and Human Services regarding the
9 preparation of the information materials for the newly enrolled students.

10 **(e)** This section does not create a private right of action."

11 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to the
12 2003-2004 academic year and each subsequent year.