

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 2025

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SENATE BILL 373

Short Title: Vaccination Schedule Variance/Minors. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Moffitt, Sawrey, and Overcash (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 24, 2025

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

2 AN ACT TO ENSURE MINORS ARE NOT DISCRIMINATED AGAINST FOR VARIANCE
3 IN RECOMMENDED VACCINATION SCHEDULES.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Article 1A of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by
6 adding a new section to read:

7 **§ 90-21.5A. Treatment of minors through vaccination schedule.**

8 (a) A health care practitioner shall not refuse to accept a minor as a patient in their
9 medical practice or at a hospital solely on the basis of the minor's refusal or the minor's parent,
10 guardian, or custodian's refusal to comply with timing or frequency of the recommended
11 vaccination and immunization schedule as set forth in the Centers for Disease Control and
12 Prevention's Child Immunization Schedule. A refusal to have a vaccination altogether under this
13 section shall not be construed to supersede a requirement under G.S. 130A-152 set forth by the
14 Commission for Public Health; however, a variance in recommended schedule or delay in
15 administration of a recommended vaccination shall be allowed under G.S. 130A-152(c)(1).

16 (b) For the purpose of this section, the term "health care practitioner" means a physician
17 licensed to practice medicine under Article 1 of this Chapter, a physician assistant, or advanced
18 practice registered nurse licensed to administer immunizations or vaccinations under their
19 respective scope of licensure.

20 (c) Violation of this section shall constitute unprofessional conduct under each health
21 care practitioner's occupational licensing board.

22 **SECTION 2.(a)** The North Carolina Medical Board and North Carolina Board of
23 Nursing shall adopt rules to implement the provisions of this act.

24 **SECTION 2.(b)** The Commission for Public Health shall adopt rules to allow for
25 exemptions under G.S. 130A-152(c)(1) for minors who elect to delay the administration of an
26 immunization or vaccination under this section.

27 **SECTION 3.** Section 1 of this act becomes effective October 1, 2025. The remainder
28 of this act is effective when it becomes law.

