



Advocating for the profession, advancing patient care

Support Senate Bill 626

Expanding Immunization Opportunities

STATUS

Senate Bill 626, sponsored by Senator Thomas McGarrigle (R-26), was introduced on April 18, 2017 and was referred to the Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee where it awaits consideration.

THIS BILL WOULD

Change Pennsylvania law to permit pharmacists to provide all immunizations to patients nine years of age and older with parental consent.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Act 8 of 2015 lowered the age pharmacists can provide the flu vaccine to patients nine years of age and older, with parental consent. It also established that licensed pharmacy interns are permitted to administer immunizations under the direct supervision of a pharmacist who possesses an immunization license.

WHY YOU SHOULD SUPPORT

- Currently in Pennsylvania, there are approximately 9,500 certified pharmacist immunizers available to safely and conveniently administer vaccinations.
- The public's unique access to pharmacists - including extended hours of operation and weekend availability, coupled with being a trusted health care professional - places pharmacies in an ideal position to have a major impact on reducing vaccine-preventable illness.

