

HOUSE BILL 621: 3-Year FDA Approval for New Childhood Vaxx.

2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee: House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the **Date**: May 2, 2023

House

Introduced by:Reps. Blackwell, Biggs, Potts, SasserPrepared by:Theresa MatulaAnalysis of:Second EditionLegislative Analyst

OVERVIEW: HB 621 would specify that a vaccine used for a required immunization be approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for three years, or be recommended by both the North Carolina Medical Society Board of Directors and the North Carolina Pediatric Society Board of Directors if approved for less than three years, before being added to the childhood immunization schedule.

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 130A-30 provides that the **Commission for Public Health** consists of 13 members: four elected by the NC Medical Society and nine appointed by the Governor. The Governor's appointees must include a licensed pharmacist, one a registered engineer experienced in sanitary engineering or a soil scientist, one a licensed veterinarian, one a licensed optometrist, one a licensed dentist, and one a registered nurse.

BILL ANALYSIS: Current law (G.S. 130A-152) requires every child present in the state to be immunized against certain specified diseases and gives the Commission for Public Health authority to determine whether children should be immunized against any other disease in the interest of public health.

House Bill 621 requires the Commission for Public Health to determine that the immunization is in the interest of public health (current requirement) and to also confirm that the immunization has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for a minimum of three years. If it has not been approved by the FDA for three years, it must be recommended by both the North Carolina Medical Society Board of Directors and the North Carolina Pediatric Society Board of Directors before being added to the State's childhood immunization schedule.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill would become effective when it becomes law and apply to new vaccine requirements established for children in the State on or after that date.

Jeffrey Hudson Director



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