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By: **Delegates Hubbard, Bromwell, Hammen, Morhaim, and Rosenberg**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2005

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing a certain termination provision relating to the  
4 Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations; and generally relating to  
5 the Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
7 Article - Health - General  
8 Section 18-214  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Chapter 337 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002  
13 Section 2

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article - Health - General**

17 18-214.

18 (a) In this section, "vaccine" means a product intended to elicit, in humans,  
19 active or passive immunity against an infectious agent or product of an infectious  
20 agent.

21 (b) There is a Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations.

22 (c) The Commission consists of at least the following members:

23 (1) One physician member of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty Public  
24 Health Council;

- 1 (2) The chairperson of the Maryland Childhood Immunization  
2 Partnership;
- 3 (3) Two physician members of the Maryland Chapter of the American  
4 Academy of Pediatrics with experience in private practice and infectious diseases;
- 5 (4) One physician member of the Maryland Academy of Family  
6 Physicians;
- 7 (5) One physician member of the American College of Physicians -  
8 Internal Medicine Society of Maryland;
- 9 (6) The executive director of the Maryland Partnership for Prevention;
- 10 (7) One local health officer;
- 11 (8) One representative from the Department's Vaccines for Children  
12 Program;
- 13 (9) One representative of the Maryland school system with knowledge of  
14 the immunizations required of children entering schools;
- 15 (10) The Maryland State Epidemiologist;
- 16 (11) One representative from a public health consumer advocacy group;  
17 and
- 18 (12) One nurse practitioner.
- 19 (d) The Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall  
20 appoint the membership of the Commission, based on the recommendation of the  
21 appropriate medical society or agency.
- 22 (e) The physician member of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty Public  
23 Health Council shall:
- 24 (1) Chair the Commission;
- 25 (2) Establish subcommittees to facilitate the work of the Commission;  
26 and
- 27 (3) Appoint subcommittee chairs from among the Commission members.
- 28 (f) A member of the Commission may not receive compensation but is entitled  
29 to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as  
30 provided in the State budget.
- 31 (g) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall provide the staffing  
32 for the Commission.
- 33 (h) The Commission shall:

1 (1) Determine where community vaccine shortages exist and which  
2 vaccines are in short supply;

3 (2) Develop a recommendation for a plan to effectuate the equitable  
4 distribution of vaccines; and

5 (3) Study and make recommendations about other related issues as  
6 determined by the Commission, including but not limited to:

7 (i) Immunizations required of children entering schools in times of  
8 vaccine shortage;

9 (ii) All available options for the purchasing of vaccines;

10 (iii) Elimination of any vaccine distribution disparities;

11 (iv) A public education campaign in the event of a vaccine shortage;

12 (v) The availability and affordability of adult and childhood  
13 vaccines; and

14 (vi) Strategies to increase immunizations among those adults and  
15 children recommended to receive immunizations, including catch-up immunizations.

16 (i) On or before December 15 of each year, the Commission shall submit a  
17 report on its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with  
18 § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Education, Health, and  
19 Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Health and Government Operations  
20 Committee.

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### Chapter 337 of the Acts of 2002

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
23 June 1, 2002. [It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of May  
24 31, 2005, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be  
25 abrogated and of no further force and effect.]

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
27 June 1, 2005.