

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 17-1024.01 Kristen Forrestal x4217

**SENATE BILL 17-250**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Marble and Neville T.,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Lebsock and Neville P., Ransom**

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**Senate Committees**  
Health & Human Services

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING THE EXEMPTION OF A STUDENT FROM THE REQUIREMENT**  
102 **OF IMMUNIZATIONS FOR ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill clarifies that a certification or exemption letter required for exemption from a school immunization requirement may be from a licensed physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice nurse or a parent, guardian, emancipated student, or student 18 years of age or older. A person submitting a letter is not required to use a specified form.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-4-903, **amend** (2)  
3 and (2.5)(b) as follows:

4 **25-4-903. Exemptions from immunization - rules.** (2) It is the  
5 responsibility of the parent or legal guardian to have his or her child  
6 immunized unless the child is exempted pursuant to this section. A  
7 student shall be exempted from receiving the required immunizations in  
8 the following manner:

9 (a) By submitting to the student's school certification from a  
10 licensed physician, physician assistant authorized under section  
11 12-36-106 (5), ~~C.R.S.~~, or advanced practice nurse that the physical  
12 condition of the student is such that one or more specified immunizations  
13 would endanger his or her life or health or is medically contraindicated  
14 due to other medical conditions. ~~OR THE CERTIFICATION MAY BE A LETTER~~  
15 ~~WRITTEN BY A LICENSED PHYSICIAN, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, OR ADVANCED~~  
16 ~~PRACTICE NURSE. A PARENT, GUARDIAN, PHYSICIAN, PHYSICIAN~~  
17 ~~ASSISTANT, OR ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE IS NOT REQUIRED TO USE A~~  
18 ~~FORM FURNISHED BY THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH, THE DEPARTMENT OF~~  
19 ~~PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT, OR ANOTHER ENTITY.~~

20 (b) By submitting to the student's school a statement of exemption  
21 signed by one parent or guardian or the emancipated student or student  
22 eighteen years of age or older that the parent, guardian, or student is an  
23 adherent to a religious belief whose teachings are opposed to  
24 immunizations or that the parent or guardian or the emancipated student  
25 or student eighteen years of age or older has a personal belief that is  
26 opposed to immunizations. THE STATEMENT OF EXEMPTION MAY BE A

1 LETTER WRITTEN BY A PARENT, GUARDIAN, EMANCIPATED STUDENT, OR  
2 STUDENT EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER. A PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR  
3 STUDENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO USE A FORM FURNISHED BY THE STATE  
4 BOARD OF HEALTH, THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND  
5 ENVIRONMENT, OR ANOTHER ENTITY.

6 (2.5) The state board of health shall promulgate rules regarding:

7 (b) The frequency of submission of ~~exemption forms~~  
8 EXEMPTIONS.

9 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
10 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
11 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
12 9, 2017, if adjournment sine die is on May 10, 2017); except that, if a  
13 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
14 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
15 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
16 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
17 November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
18 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.