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BILL ANALYSIS

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House Bill 4726 (Substitute S-1 as reported)
Sponsor: Representative Leslie Mortimer
House Committee: Education
Senate Committee: Education

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Revised School Code to require the board of a school district or public school academy to distribute to parents information about meningococcal meningitis under certain circumstances; and require the Departments of Education and Community Health to develop the information and make it available to schools.

Specifically, if the board of a school district or board of directors of a public school academy (PSA), at the beginning of a school year, provided information on immunizations, infectious disease, medications, or other school health issues to parents in at least grades 6, 9, and 12, then with that information the board would have to include information about meningococcal meningitis and the vaccine for the disease. The information would have to include the causes and symptoms of the disease, how it is spread, and sources where parents and guardians could obtain additional information about meningococcal meningitis and could obtain vaccination of a child against the disease.

The Department of Education, in cooperation with the Department of Community Health, would have to develop and make available to school districts, PSAs, and nonpublic schools the information specified in the bill, in the manner the Department of Education determined to be the most cost-effective and programmatically-effective, which would have to include posting the information on its website.

Proposed MCL 380.1177a.

Legislative Analyst: Curtis Walker

FISCAL IMPACT

The Departments of Education and Community Health would face increased costs associated with the development and dissemination of the meningitis information required in this legislation.

School districts currently providing information on immunizations, infectious disease, medications, or other health issues to pupils in at least grades 6, 9, and 12 would see minimal increased costs (such as the cost of paper and additional postage, if applicable) associated with the distribution of meningitis information as the bill would require.

Date Completed: 10-21-05

Fiscal Analyst: Kathryn Summers-Coty