



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

## Bill Analysis

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### H.B. 384

130th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Reps.** Antonio and Smith, Ramos, Becker, Hackett, Strahorn, Reece, Fedor, Milkovich, Scherer

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## BILL SUMMARY

- Lowers to seven the minimum age of a person to whom a pharmacist may administer certain immunizations.

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## CONTENT AND OPERATION

### Minimum age for immunizations by pharmacists

Pharmacists are authorized under current law to administer influenza immunizations to persons 14 years of age or older and immunizations for the following to persons 18 years of age or older: pneumonia, tetanus, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, meningitis, diphtheria, and pertussis, as well as any other immunization approved by rule of the State Board of Pharmacy adopted in consultation with the State Medical Board.<sup>1</sup> At present, the zoster vaccine, which is for shingles, is the only immunization that has been approved by Pharmacy Board rule.<sup>2</sup>

As summarized in the table presented below, the bill lowers the ages of the persons to whom a pharmacist may administer immunizations. Except in the case of an immunization that is approved by Pharmacy Board rule, the bill permits a pharmacist to administer immunizations to persons starting with age seven.<sup>3</sup> Corresponding provisions of current law are adjusted to reflect the lower age, still requiring a

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 4729.41(A) and (E).

<sup>2</sup> Ohio Administrative Code 4729-5-38; CDC. *Shingles Vaccination: What You Need to Know* (last visited January 14, 2014), available at <<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/shingles/vacc-need-know.htm>>.

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 4729.41(A)(1)(a).

pharmacist to obtain permission from a minor's parent or guardian in the case of an influenza immunization.<sup>4</sup> For any immunization approved by Pharmacy Board rule, the bill retains the requirement that the person receiving the immunization be at least age 18.<sup>5</sup>

<b>Immunizations by pharmacists</b>		
Type	Recipient minimum age under current law	Recipient minimum age under the bill
Influenza	14	7
Pneumonia	18	7
Tetanus	18	7
Hepatitis A	18	7
Hepatitis B	18	7
Meningitis	18	7
Diphtheria	18	7
Pertussis	18	7
Zoster (shingles) and any other immunizations approved by Pharmacy Board rule	18	18 (no change)

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## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	12-10-13

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<sup>4</sup> R.C. 4729.41(C)(3). An amendment is necessary if the requirement to obtain permission from a parent or guardian is intended to apply to the other immunizations that the bill authorizes a pharmacist to administer to a person under age 18.

<sup>5</sup> R.C. 4729.41(A)(1)(b).

