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No. 869

S.P. 366

In Senate, February 24, 2023

An Act to Protect Education Access by Prohibiting a Mandate for Schoolchildren for a COVID-19 Vaccine or a Vaccine Under an Emergency Use Authorization

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator KEIM of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Representative SAMPSON of Alfred and
Senators: BRAKEY of Androscoggin, GUERIN of Penobscot, LYFORD of Penobscot,
MOORE of Washington, POULIOT of Kennebec, Representatives: HENDERSON of
Rumford, LYMAN of Livermore Falls.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

- **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6359, sub-§6,** as amended by PL 2019, c. 154, §7, is further amended to read:
- **6. Rules; requirements; reports.** The Director of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention within the Department of Health and Human Services shall adopt rules necessary for the effective implementation of this subchapter, including, but not limited to, rules establishing immunization requirements for each disease, school record keeping and reporting requirements or guidelines and procedures for the exclusion of nonimmunized students from school. The rules may not include any provision governing medical exemptions and may not require a vaccine approved for use solely under an emergency use authorization by the federal Food and Drug Administration or a vaccine for coronavirus disease 2019, or COVID-19. Rules adopted pursuant to this subchapter are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A except that rules adopted pursuant to this subchapter specifying the diseases for which immunization is required are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.
- Immunization requirements more stringent than the provisions of this subchapter may be adopted by a school board or by policy of a private school's governing board.

18 SUMMARY

This bill prohibits the Director of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention within the Department of Health and Human Services from requiring by rule a vaccine approved for use solely under an emergency use authorization or a COVID-19 vaccine.