

STATE OF NEW YORK

8123--A

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

May 31, 2017

Introduced by M. of A. GOTTFRIED -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to admission of certain unvaccinated students to public schools

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 3201-b
2 to read as follows:

3 § 3201-b. Procedure for religious exemption from vaccination require-
4 ment. 1. The definitions of terms in section twenty-one hundred sixty-
5 four of the public health law shall apply to this section. This section
6 shall apply notwithstanding any general, special, local law or rule or
7 regulation to the contrary. This section shall only apply with respect
8 to admission or receiving of a child into a school, or attending a
9 school, referred to in section one of article eleven of the New York
10 state constitution, including a charter school.

11 2. Where a child's parent, parents or guardian claim that section
12 twenty-one hundred sixty-four of the public health law shall not apply
13 to the child because the parent, parents, or guardian hold genuine and
14 sincere religious beliefs which are contrary to the practices required
15 in such section, the child shall be deemed to have complied with that
16 section and no certificate under that section shall be required as a
17 prerequisite to such child being admitted or received into school or
18 attending school, provided that the parent, parents or guardian file
19 with the school a religious beliefs exemption form under subdivision
20 three of this section.

21 3. Religious beliefs exemption form. Any parent, parents, or guardian
22 requesting an exemption from the vaccination requirements of section
23 twenty-one hundred sixty-four of the public health law based upon his,
24 her or their genuine and sincere religious beliefs that are contrary to

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 the practices prescribed by such section shall complete the following
2 religious beliefs exemption form and file it with the school:

3 RELIGIOUS BELIEFS VACCINATION EXEMPTION FORM

4 (a) Name(s) of parent, parents or guardian: _____

5 (b) Name of child: _____

6 (c) Child's birthdate: _____

7 (d) Child's home address: _____

8 I/we _____, as the parent, parents, or guardian of the
9 above-named child, request a religious beliefs exemption from the vacci-
10 nation requirements of Public Health Law section 2164 for such child
11 because I/we hold a genuine and sincere religious belief that is contra-
12 ry to such vaccination practices.

13 _____
14 (Signature of parent or guardian) (Date)

15 _____
16 (Signature of parent or guardian) (Date)

17 § 2. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall
18 have become a law.