

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 620 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY BROOKS, CAPPELLETTI, FONTANA, ARGALL, COLLETT, YUDICHAK, J. WARD, SCAVELLO, PHILLIPS-HILL AND PITTMAN, MAY 19, 2021

REFERRED TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, MAY 19, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in COVID-19 disaster emergency,
3 providing for COVID-19 vaccine.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Chapter 57 of Title 35 of the Pennsylvania
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subchapter to read:

8 SUBCHAPTER F

9 COVID-19 VACCINE

10 Sec.

11 5751. (Reserved).

12 5752. (Reserved).

13 5753. Local pharmacy inclusion.

14 § 5751. (Reserved).

15 § 5752. (Reserved).

16 § 5753. Local pharmacy inclusion.

17 (a) General rule.--Except as otherwise provided, the
18 department must include at least two local pharmacies in each

1 county under the jurisdiction of the department in the
2 implementation of the Commonwealth's COVID-19 Interim
3 Vaccination Plan. A pharmacy under this section must have been
4 approved as a COVID-19 vaccine provider and employ a certified
5 immunizing pharmacist.

6 (b) Exception.--If a county under the jurisdiction of the
7 department cannot comply with the requirements of subsection
8 (a), the department shall include any local pharmacy in a county
9 under subsection (a).

10 (c) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
11 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
12 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 "COVID-19." The novel coronavirus as identified in the
14 Governor's proclamation of disaster emergency issued on March 6,
15 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020).

16 "COVID-19 Interim Vaccination Plan." Version 8.0 of the
17 Commonwealth's COVID-19 Interim Vaccination Plan published March
18 31, 2021.

19 "COVID-19 vaccine." A vaccine for COVID-19 that has received
20 emergency use authorization from the United States Food and Drug
21 Administration.

22 "Department." The Department of Health of the Commonwealth.

23 "Local pharmacy." A pharmacy, as defined under section 2(12)
24 of the act of September 27, 1961 (P.L.1700, No.699), known as
25 the Pharmacy Act, that is independent and solely owned and
26 operated in this Commonwealth. The term does not include a
27 retail chain pharmacy.

28 "Provider." A COVID-19 vaccine provider approved by the
29 Department of Health to distribute and administer COVID-19
30 vaccine doses in this Commonwealth.

1 "Retail chain pharmacy." A pharmacy, as defined under
2 section 2(12) of the Pharmacy Act, operating 12 or more
3 pharmacies in this Commonwealth and is not independent and
4 solely owned and operated, or a vaccine provider contracted
5 through the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19
6 Vaccination.

7 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.