

VACCINE INFORMATION SHARING

LEGISLATOR NOTICE

The Legislative Services Division is required to offer a brief history on the subject matter of a bill draft request prior to drafting (5-4-105, MCA; [Chapter 309, Laws of 2017](#)). The history must include related legislation introduced over the last five sessions and hyperlinks to the bill, hearing information, and fiscal notes. The legislation links below open to the page showing the status and history of bills introduced on this topic in the past. The bill text and any related fiscal notes can be accessed through the link at the top of that page.

Legislation can be complex, and this history is not intended to be exhaustive. Please contact the drafter of the requested bill for more information.

Background Materials and Research

Topic Summary: The Department of Public Health and Human Services maintains an electronic database of immunization records known as "imMTrax." The database is designed to provide a centralized repository for all healthcare providers to share immunization records so that each patient can receive desired vaccinations on the recommended schedule and avoid duplicate vaccinations resulting from incomplete or inaccessible records. Currently, the system is "opt-in," meaning that patients must affirmatively agree to have their immunization information included in the database. During the past several legislative sessions, bills have been introduced to change to an "opt-out" system where patients would be enrolled in the database by default and need to request to be excluded. Introduced bills have also addressed limitations on disclosure and sharing of information contained in the system.

Legislative Branch Materials: [Childhood Immunization Requirements in Montana](#), Legislative Audit Division, May 2014.

Other Materials: [imMTrax Resources List](#), Department of Public Health and Human Services

Introduced Legislation

*Chapter number assigned means bill was passed and approved.

2019

[House Bill 471](#) -- (S) Died in Standing Committee -- A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS TO OFFER PATIENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO OPT IN TO THE STATE IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION SYSTEM; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

[House Bill 596](#) -- (S) Died in Standing Committee -- A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING LIMITED DISCLOSURE OF A PATIENT'S IMMUNIZATION RECORD WITH THE PATIENT'S AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE STATE IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION SYSTEM; ALLOWING A PATIENT TO OPT OUT OF DISCLOSURE OF THE INFORMATION; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 50-16-530, 50-16-603, 50-16-605, AND 50-16-805, MCA."

2017

[House Bill 293](#) -- (H) Died in Standing Committee -- A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING LIMITED DISCLOSURE OF A PATIENT'S IMMUNIZATION RECORD WITHOUT THE PATIENT'S AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE STATE IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION SYSTEM; ALLOWING A PATIENT TO OPT OUT OF DISCLOSURE OF THE INFORMATION; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 50-16-530, 50-16-603, 50-16-605, AND 50-16-805, MCA."

2015

[House Bill 73](#) -- (H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal -- A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING LIMITED DISCLOSURE OF A PATIENT'S IMMUNIZATION RECORD WITHOUT THE PATIENT'S AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE STATE IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION SYSTEM; ALLOWING A PATIENT TO OPT OUT OF DISCLOSURE OF THE INFORMATION; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 50-16-530, 50-16-603, 50-16-605, AND 50-16-805, MCA."

2013

[House Bill 479](#) -- (H) Died in Standing Committee -- A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING RELEASE OF A PATIENT'S IMMUNIZATION RECORDS WITHOUT THE PATIENT'S CONSENT FOR USE IN RELATION TO THE STATE IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION SYSTEM; ALLOWING A PATIENT TO OPT OUT OF DISCLOSURE OF THE INFORMATION; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 50-16-530, 50-16-603, 50-16-605, AND 50-16-805, MCA."

2011

None

Prepared By:

Cori Hach, Staff Attorney
Legislative Services Division
March 16, 2020