



THOMAS J. VILSACK  
GOVERNOR

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

SALLY J. PEDERSON  
LT. GOVERNOR

March 18, 2004

The Honorable Chester Culver  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol Building  
L O C A L

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit:

**House File 2343**, an Act providing for the establishment of a vaccination program for first responders, and providing an immediate effective date.

The above House File is hereby approved this date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas J. Vilsack".

Thomas J. Vilsack  
Governor

TJV:jmc

cc: Secretary of the Senate  
Chief Clerk of the House





HOUSE FILE 2343

AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A VACCINATION PROGRAM FOR  
FIRST RESPONDERS, AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. NEW SECTION. 135.146 FIRST RESPONDER  
VACCINATION PROGRAM.

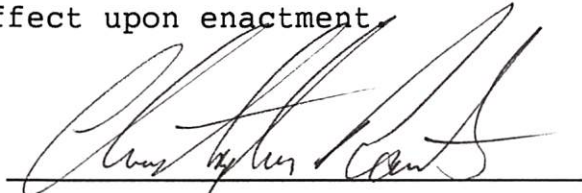
1. In the event that federal funding is received for administering vaccinations for first responders, the department shall offer a vaccination program for first responders who may be exposed to infectious diseases when deployed to disaster locations. For purposes of this section, "first responder" means state and local law enforcement personnel, fire department personnel, and emergency medical personnel who will be deployed to sites of bioterrorism attacks, terrorist attacks, catastrophic or natural disasters, and other disasters. The vaccinations shall include, but not be limited to, vaccinations for hepatitis B, diphtheria-tetanus, influenza, and other vaccinations when recommended by the United States public health service and in accordance with federal emergency management agency policy. Immune globulin will be made available when necessary.

2. Participation in the vaccination program shall be voluntary, except for first responders who are classified as having occupational exposure to blood-borne pathogens as defined by the occupational safety and health administration standard contained in 29 C.F.R. § 1910.1030. First responders who are so classified shall be required to receive the vaccinations as described in subsection 1. A first responder shall be exempt from this requirement, however, when a written

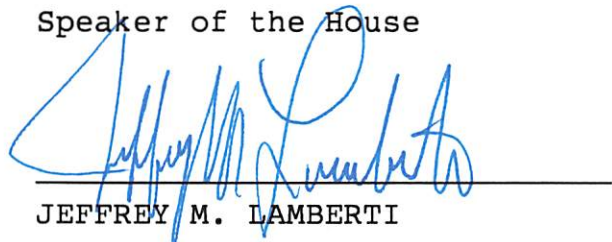
statement from a licensed physician is presented indicating that a vaccine is medically contraindicated for that person or the first responder signs a written statement that the administration of a vaccination conflicts with religious tenets.

3. The department shall establish first responder notification procedures regarding the existence of the program by rule, and shall develop, and distribute to first responders, educational materials on methods of preventing exposure to infectious diseases. In administering the program, the department may contract with county and local health departments, not-for-profit home health care agencies, hospitals, physicians, and military unit clinics.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.



CHRISTOPHER C. RANTS  
Speaker of the House



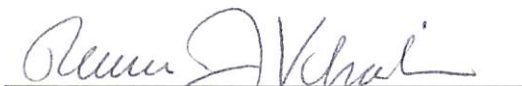
JEFFREY M. LAMBERTI  
President of the Senate

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the House and is known as House File 2343, Eightieth General Assembly.



MARGARET THOMSON  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved March 18, 2004



THOMAS J. VILSACK  
Governor