

**House File 2139 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2139

BY SHIPLEY

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to information and communications provided by a  
2 school official, school employee, or school nurse relative  
3 to the religious exemption from immunization of children.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 139A.8, subsection 8, Code 2020, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 8. a. The department, in consultation with the director  
4 of the department of education, shall adopt rules for the  
5 implementation of this section and shall provide those rules  
6 to local school boards and local boards. The rules adopted  
7 shall require that any information or communication provided by  
8 a school official, school employee, or school nurse regarding  
9 immunization requirements shall include information regarding  
10 the exemption from immunization requirement specified pursuant  
11 to subsection 4, paragraph "a", subparagraph (2). For the  
12 purposes of this subsection:

13 b. For purposes of this subsection:

14 (1) "School employee" means a person employed by a nonpublic  
15 school or school district, or any area education agency staff  
16 member who provides services to a school or school district.

17 (2) "School nurse" means a person who holds an endorsement  
18 or a statement of professional recognition for school nurses  
19 issued by the board of educational examiners under chapter 272.

20 (3) "School official" means a licensed school employee, and  
21 includes unlicensed school employees employed for security or  
22 supervision purposes.

23

#### EXPLANATION

24 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
25 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

26 This bill relates to the immunization of children and rules  
27 adopted by the department of public health for implementation  
28 of immunization of children requirements. The bill provides  
29 that any information or communication provided by a school  
30 official, school employee, or school nurse regarding  
31 immunization requirements shall include information regarding  
32 the exemption from immunization requirement that allows an  
33 applicant to state that the immunization conflicts with the  
34 tenets and practices of a recognized religious denomination of  
35 which the applicant is an adherent or member.