

April 8, 2003

**H 916. FIRST RESPONDERS VACCINATION PROGRAM. TO ESTABLISH A VACCINATION PROGRAM FOR FIRST RESPONDERS TO TERRORIST INCIDENTS, CATASTROPHIC OR NATURAL DISASTERS, OR EMERGENCIES.** Establishes vaccination program for first responders who may be exposed to infectious diseases when deployed to disaster locations. Provides that participation by first responders shall be voluntary, except when a responder has an occupational exposure to a bloodborne pathogen for which vaccination is required by law. Provides exemption from any required vaccination if the vaccination conflicts with the first responder's religious tenets, or if the first responder has a medical contraindication verified by a physician. Vaccinations offered under the program shall include but not be limited to hepatitis A, hepatitis B, diphtheria-tetanus, influenza, pneumococcal vaccination, and other vaccinations recommended by the US Public Health Service in accordance with federal emergency management policy.

**Intro. by Brubaker.**

Ref. to Health	GS 130A
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April 28, 2003

**H 916. FIRST RESPONDERS VACCINATION PROGRAM.** Intro. 4/8/03. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. (1) In sec. (a) of proposed new GS 130A-485, requires local health departments, as well as Dep't of Health and Human Services, to offer a vaccination program for first responders who may be exposed to infectious diseases when deployed to disaster locations. (2) In proposed sec. (d), adds requirement that the first responders who will have priority for vaccination in the event of a vaccine shortage be first responders deployed to a disaster location. (3) Directs DHHS to work with local employers to access federal funds to implement the first responder vaccination program, and omits language tying implementation of the vaccination program to receipt of federal funds.

June 3, 2003

**H 916. FIRST RESPONDERS VACCINATION PROGRAM.** Intro. 4/8/03. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 2nd edition. Makes clear that the exemption from vaccination for first responders for whom such vaccination is medically contraindicated or in violation of religious scruples does not apply to first responders classified as having "occupational exposure" to bloodborne pathogens. First responders so classified are required to be vaccinated.

June 24, 2003

**SL 2003-227 (H 916). FIRST RESPONDERS VACCINATION PROGRAM. AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A VACCINATION PROGRAM FOR FIRST RESPONDERS TO TERRORIST INCIDENTS, CATASTROPHIC OR NATURAL DISASTERS, OR EMERGENCIES.** Summarized in *Daily Bulletin* 4/8/03, 4/28/03, and 6/3/03. Enacted June 19, 2003. Effective June 19, 2003.