

February 7, 2007

H 122. HEALTH CARE FACILITY EMPLOYEES/FLU VACCINE. Filed 2/7/07. *REQUIRING HOSPITALS TO PROVIDE THE INFLUENZA VACCINE AT NO COST TO ALL EMPLOYEES HAVING DIRECT PATIENT CONTACT, TO REPORT INFLUENZA VACCINATION RATES OF EMPLOYEES TO THE STATE, AND TO PROVIDE EDUCATION TO HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES ABOUT THE RISKS OF INFLUENZA AND BENEFITS OF IMMUNIZATION; AND TO REQUIRE NURSING HOMES AND ADULT CARE HOMES TO REPORT INFLUENZA VACCINATION RATES OF EMPLOYEES.* Enacts new GS 131E-79.2 (Immunization of employees) requiring hospitals to provide all employees having contact with patients with free vaccinations and to document and report the immunizations for each employee to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Immunizations and documentation must occur no later than November 30 of each year. Employees cannot be required to have the vaccination if it is medically contraindicated or against the employee's religious beliefs, or if they refuse after being informed of its risks. Amends GS 131D-9 and GS 131E-113 to require adult care homes and nursing homes to report employee flu vaccinations rates to DHHS and to define *employee* to include any employee with direct contact with residents. Effective November 1, 2007.

Intro. by Glazier, Alexander.

GS 131D, 131E