

1 State of Arkansas  
2 92nd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2019  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1786

5 By: Representative Boyd  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING IMMUNIZATIONS REQUIRED FOR PUBLIC  
9 SCHOOL STUDENTS; TO REQUIRE A PUBLIC SCHOOL TO CREATE  
10 AND MAINTAIN A REPORT THAT PROVIDES CERTAIN  
11 INFORMATION REGARDING THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF  
12 PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS WITHIN A PUBLIC SCHOOL WHO  
13 HAVE AN EXEMPTION FROM THE REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN  
14 VACCINATIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

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18 TO REQUIRE A PUBLIC SCHOOL TO CREATE A  
19 REPORT THAT PROVIDES CERTAIN INFORMATION  
20 REGARDING THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF  
21 PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS WITHIN THE PUBLIC  
22 SCHOOL WHO HAVE AN EXEMPTION FROM THE  
23 REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN VACCINATIONS.  
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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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28 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative intent.

29 The General Assembly finds that:

30 (1) Forty-six (46) states throughout the United States allow  
31 exemptions based on religious or philosophical beliefs to vaccination  
32 requirements for public school students;

33 (2) Continued allowance for exemptions to vaccination  
34 requirements for public school students creates the opportunity for outbreaks  
35 of a number of preventable diseases, which poses a nationwide health crisis;  
36 and



1           (3) Reasonable steps should be taken in order to fully inform  
2 parents and legal guardians of public school students regarding the number  
3 and percentage of public school students within a public school who have been  
4 granted exemptions from the requirement to obtain certain vaccinations in  
5 order to attend public school in Arkansas.

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7           SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-18-702(b), concerning the responsibility  
8 of public schools to enforce provisions of the law with respect to required  
9 immunizations of public school students, is amended to add an additional  
10 subdivision to read as follows:

11           (3)(A) A public school shall create and maintain a report that  
12 provides information regarding the:

13                   (i) Number of public school students within the  
14 public school who have been granted from the Department of Health under  
15 subsection (d) of this section an exemption from the requirement to obtain  
16 vaccinations as required under this section; and

17                   (ii) Percentage of public school students within the  
18 public school who have been granted from the Department of Health under  
19 subsection (d) of this section an exemption from the requirement to obtain  
20 vaccinations as required under this section.

21           (B) The report required under subdivision (b)(3)(A) of  
22 this section shall be:

23                   (i) Updated by December 1 of each year;  
24                   (ii) Posted and available to the public online; and  
25                   (iii) Include the herd immunity threshold for each  
26 disease for which an immunization is required under this section.

27           (C) For purposes of this subdivision (b)(3), "herd  
28 immunity threshold" means the percentage of coverage needed in a community  
29 population in order to prevent a disease from persisting in the community  
30 population.