



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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COMMISSIONER

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August 30, 2007

RE: Implementation of House Bill 1059; 80 (R) Session of the Texas Legislature

Dear Superintendent/School Administrator:

The regular session of the 80th Texas Legislature enacted House Bill (HB) 1059, the Emily Lastinger Act, which requires the department to create a list of the required immunizations for school attendance and a list of the recommended vaccinations. The required immunization list, although already in existence as the *Minimum Immunization Requirements*, has been updated and is now available at www.ImmunizeTexas.com. The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) follows the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended immunizations, thus this schedule will serve as the department's recommended list of vaccinations.

HB 1059 also requires school districts, that maintain a website, post the list of immunization requirements and recommendations in English and Spanish. In an effort to align the mandated information in a user-friendly format that can be easily linked to any ISD website, the DSHS Immunization Branch has updated the Immunization Requirements web page. Some of the items in the updated web page include a listing of the required immunizations for school attendance (school year 2007-08) and a link to the 2007 recommended immunization schedule. Please visit <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school/default.shtm> for more information related to school compliance.

Lastly, HB 1059 also mandates that school districts to post, on the website, a list of health clinics in the district that offer the influenza vaccine to the extent those clinics are known to the district. Please see the enclosed regional and local health department contact lists for more information about flu clinic locations in your district.

If you have any questions regarding immunization requirements for school attendance, please contact the Immunization Branch at (800) 252-9152.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jack C. Sims".

Jack C. Sims, Manager
Immunization Branch

Enclosures

