AN ACT

Relating to immunization of postsecondary students for meningitis; and providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1
AN ACT

Relating to immunization of postsecondary students for meningitis; and providing for an effective date.

*Section 1.* AS 14.48.030(b) is amended to read:

(b) Except as provided under AS 14.48.165, the commission may exempt the following educational programs, and educational institutions only providing programs exempt under (a) of this section and this subsection, from some or all of the provisions of this chapter:

(1) a program operated by a state or a political subdivision of a state;

(2) instruction sponsored by a bona fide trade, business, labor, professional, or fraternal association or organization, recognized by the commission, and conducted only for that association's or organization's membership;

(3) nonprofit postsecondary educational institutions offering undergraduate or graduate educational programs, from a facility in this state, that are
acceptable for credit toward an associate, bachelor's, or graduate degree;
(4) a program that is provided without a fee, other than the actual cost
of materials, to students;
(5) a program that does not offer education credentials;
(6) a short course of study that is not more than 10 days or 80
hours in duration;
(7) a program offered within the state by an out-of-state institution that
is authorized to operate by the state in which it is located and is nationally or
regionally accredited;
(8) a program or institution that is regulated by another agency or
political subdivision of the state regarding the quality of course contents, facilities, and
operation.

* Sec. 2. AS 14.48 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 14.48.165. Immunization of postsecondary students. (a) A
postsecondary educational institution in this state shall provide written notice to each
student who intends to reside in campus housing before the student's initial period of
residence that includes the following information:
(1) meningococcal disease
   (A) is a serious illness that can cause death within a few hours
   of onset; one in 10 cases is fatal, and one in seven survivors of the illness is left
   with severe disability;
   (B) is a contagious but also largely preventable infection of the
   spinal cord fluid and the fluid surrounding the brain;
(2) scientific evidence suggests that college students living in campus
housing are at a moderately increased risk of contracting meningococcal disease; and
(3) immunization against meningococcal disease decreases the risk of
contracting the illness.
(b) A student attending a postsecondary educational institution shall sign a
document provided by the institution indicating that the student has received
(1) an immunization against meningococcal disease; or
(2) the notice described under (a) of this section.
(c) Nothing in this section may be construed to require a postsecondary educational institution to provide or pay for immunizations against meningococcal disease.

* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).