



**Senate Bill 56
Extending COVID-19 Disaster Emergency
Summary of Changes**

Version GS-321011\B (Senate Health and Social Services Committee)

Title Amendments:

Added "relating to informed consent for COVID-19 vaccines;"

Added "relating to personal objections to the administration of COVID-19 vaccines;"

Changed the expiration date of the January 15, 2021 public health disaster emergency to March 15, 2021. This change impacted the following sections of the bill:

Section 1 – page 3, line 27

Section 2 – page 4, line 1

Section 4 – page 6, line 1

Section 5 – page 6, line 17

Section 14 – page 11, line 1

Section 15 – page 11, line 6

New Section Added: Page 10, line 6 - 11

Section 10: Informed Consent for COVID-19 Vaccines

Provides that a health care provider may not administer a COVID-19 vaccine to an individual without first obtaining the informed consent of the individual, or the parent or guardian of a minor child.

New Section Added: Page 10, line 12 - 20

Section 11: Personal Objections to the Administration of COVID-19 Vaccines

Provides that an individual may object to the administration of a COVID-19 vaccine based on religious, medical or other grounds. A parent or guardian of a minor child may object to the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine to the minor child based on religious, medical or other grounds. Further provides that a persona may not be required to provide justification or documentation to support an individual's decision to decline to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

New Section Added: Page 10, line 21 - 26

Section 12: Civil Liability

Provides that a person may not be held liability for an action taken on or after February 14, 2021 and before the effective date of this Act, that does or does not comply with an order, proclamation, or declaration adopted by the Governor to respond to a public health disaster emergency, as extended by Section 2.

Sections renumbered accordingly to conform with the addition of three new sections.

Version GS-321011\I (Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

Section 1 Legislative Findings (Page 1, line 11 – 12, Page 2, line 1 – 31, Page 3, line 1-15)

Deleted and replaced with legislative findings pertaining to the consequences for residents of the state and the state's economy due to the outbreak of COVID-19. Based on the findings, the Legislature finds that it is in the best interest of the state to take appropriate steps to continue to contain the spread of COVID-19 and to distribute COVID-19 vaccines statewide and to take appropriate steps to limit further harm to the state's economy, enable displaced workers in the state to return to work, and to allow subtenants in the state to rejoin in-person classes.

Section 3 Public Health Disaster Emergency; Financing Plan (Page 4, lines 14-17)

New subsection (c) added to provide that expenditure of state funds to address the effects of the declaration of a public health disaster emergency is limited to the expenditure authority identified in this finance plan, notwithstanding AS 26.23.050(b).