

Department of Health and Social Services

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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Senate Bill 56 Extending COVID-19 Disaster Emergency Summary of Changes - Version 32-GS1011\B

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 confirm with the addition of three new sections.