VACCINATION OF MINORS AGAINST COVID-19

Senate Bill 457 as passed by the Senate
Sponsor: Sen. Lana Theis
House Committee: Government Operations
Senate Committee: Committee of the Whole
Complete to 5-26-21

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 457 would amend the Public Health Code to prohibit issuance of a state or local epidemic-related emergency public health order that requires a minor to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Under the code, if the director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) or a local health officer determines that it is necessary to control an epidemic to protect the public health, he or she by emergency order can prohibit gatherings and establish procedures that must be followed during the epidemic.

The bill would prohibit the DHHS director or a local health officer from issuing such an order that requires a minor to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

MCL 333.2253 and 333.2453

FISCAL IMPACT:

Senate Bill 457 would have indeterminate fiscal implications for DHHS and for local public health departments. Health department costs related to pandemic events include monitoring, contact tracing, collaborating with other public and private entities for pandemic infrastructure and response, and many others. In the current pandemic many of these costs are supported by state and local funds, and some of these costs have been supported by federal appropriations in FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21.

Legislative Analyst: Rick Yuille
Fiscal Analyst: Susan Frey

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