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Int. No. 260-A

By Council Members Krishnan, Dinowitz, Louis, Schulman, Banks, Lee, Cabán, P. Sanchez, Narcisse and Gutiérrez

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to distributing information on vaccines to parents of students in New York city schools

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 1 of title 17 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 17-199.4.2 to read as follows:

§ 17-199.4.2 Informational materials on vaccines. a. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

Preschool. The term "preschool" means an early childhood education program operated by, or pursuant to a contract with, the department that serves children aged 2 to 5 not enrolled in kindergarten.

School. The term "school" means a school of the city school district of the city of New York that contains any combination of grades from and including preschool through grade 12.

b. Development of materials. The department, in collaboration with the department of education, shall develop informational materials about vaccines. At a minimum, such materials shall include:

1. General information on how vaccines work;

2. Information on the public health benefits of vaccines, including their role in disease prevention;

3. Information on the safety of vaccines, including information addressing common misconceptions about vaccine safety; and

4. Information on locations where vaccines required for school attendance may be obtained, including

city-run facilities.

§ 2. Chapter 8 of title 21-A of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 21-969.3 to read as follows:

§ 21-969.3 Distribution of informational materials on vaccines. a. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

Home language. The term "home language" means the language most frequently used in a student's home, as indicated by the response provided by the student's parent or person in parental relation, as such term is defined in subdivision 10 of section 2 of the education law, on the home language questionnaire as such term is defined in section 154-2.2 of title 8 of the New York codes, rules and regulations, regarding services for English language learners, or a successor provision.

Preschool. The term "preschool" means an early childhood education program operated by, or pursuant to a contract with, the department that serves children aged 2 to 5 not enrolled in kindergarten.

School. The term "school" means a school of the city school district of the city of New York that contains any combination of grades from and including preschool through grade 12.

School-based health center. The term "school-based health center" means a facility that is operated by independent institutions, including, but not limited to, hospitals and community based organizations, that is located within a school building operated by the department, and that provides on-site health care services to students within such school building.

b. Distribution of materials. No later than September 1, 2026, and by September 1 in each academic year thereafter, the department shall distribute to each school, for distribution to the parents of each student attending such school, the materials developed in collaboration with the department of health and mental hygiene pursuant to section 17-199.4.2. Such distribution shall be in hard copy or electronically, if distribution of other similar documents occurs electronically, using plain and simple language. Hard copies of the materials

shall also be made available in the main or central office of each school and in each school-based health center.

c. Availability of materials. The materials developed pursuant to section 17-199.4.2 shall, upon request, be made available electronically to charter and nonpublic schools in the city.

d. Language accessibility. The materials required to be distributed pursuant to subdivision b of this section shall be made available in English, the 9 most common home languages of students enrolled in schools, and any additional languages as determined by the department.

§ 3. This local law takes effect immediately.

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