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Office

H.B. 248
134th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 248's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Gross

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- Government-owned hospitals, public schools, universities, publically funded child care facilities, or other public entities may realize a minimal increase in costs to update notification procedures about vaccination exemptions. Any other impacts are uncertain.

Detailed Analysis

The bill authorizes an individual to decline a vaccination in the event that a public or private entity requires the individual to be vaccinated. In order to decline a vaccination under the bill, the individual must submit a written statement or make a verbal declaration to the mandating entity. The bill requires a written statement or verbal declaration to include at least one of the following reasons for declining vaccination: (1) medical contraindications, (2) natural immunity, or (3) reasons of conscience, including religious convictions. The bill requires a public or private entity mandating vaccination to notify an individual that the individual may decline the vaccination. In doing so, the entity must: (1) provide the notice in the same manner, communication, frequency, timing, and font in which the entity notified the individual of the vaccination requirement, (2) specify the available exemptions, and (3) explain that a vaccination may be declined either by written statement or verbal declaration. The bill also prohibits the entity from doing the following: (1) discriminating against the individual, (2) denying the individual service or access to the entity, (3) segregating the individual, (4) requiring the individual to wear a facial covering or other vaccine status label, and (5) otherwise penalizing the individual financially or socially. The bill states that its provisions, including those governing the manner in which notice of exemptions from mandatory vaccination is provided and the process by which vaccination may be declined, also apply to the state-mandated vaccines for school children, children enrolled in child care, and child care staff. Certain public entities, such as government-owned hospitals, universities, public schools, and publically funded child care

facilities may realize a minimal increase in costs to update notification procedures about vaccination exemptions. Any other impacts are uncertain.