

HB 852 -- Immunizations and Dental Services

Sponsor: Holand

This bill contains provisions pertaining to immunizations and dental services.

Effective January 1, 2005, the bill prohibits:

- (1) Immunizations from being administered in Missouri which contain heavy metals, including mercury and thimerosal; and
- (2) New or replacement dental restorations (fillings) from being performed in Missouri which contain mercury. This provision does not apply to existing restorations unless replacing the existing restoration is based on accepted dental practices or the patient requests a new restoration.

Effective January 1, 2005, the bill also requires insurers licensed in Missouri that provide coverage for immunizations and dental services on a fee schedule or a percentage reimbursement basis to:

- (1) Reimburse for immunizations not containing mercury or other heavy metals. This reimbursement must be at the same percentage rate of the usual and customary charges provided for immunizations containing mercury or other heavy metals prior to January 1, 2005; and
- (2) Reimburse for dental restorations not containing mercury at the same percentage rate of the usual and customary charges provided for dental services containing mercury prior to January 1, 2005.