

SCS SB 104 -- HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS IMMUNIZATIONS

SPONSOR: Justus (Ruestman)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Health Care Policy by a vote of 8 to 0.

This substitute requires each public school district to provide to the Department of Health and Senior Services the names and addresses of all parents and guardians of female students entering the sixth grade for the purpose of mailing each parent or guardian information regarding the connection between human papillomavirus (HPV) and cervical cancer and that an immunization against HPV infection is available.

The parent or guardian will be requested to voluntarily provide within 20 school days of the first day of school a written statement indicating whether the student has received or is receiving the immunization or that the parent or guardian has decided not to have the student immunized. If a parent or guardian chooses to have the student immunized but is unable to pay for it, the student will be immunized at public expense, subject to appropriations, in a manner determined by the department. Beginning July 1, 2010, the substitute requires the department to submit a report to the General Assembly regarding the number of students who have not been immunized against HPV and the number of non-responses to the request for voluntary reporting.

A student will not be prevented from attending school if she has not been immunized against HPV or if her parent or guardian does not return the statement.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of Unknown up to \$2,335,220 in FY 2010, Unknown up to \$2,405,277 in FY 2011, and Unknown up to \$2,477,435 in FY 2012. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill does not mandate vaccination against human papillomavirus and is not an insurance mandate but only provides information to parents and guardians regarding vaccination. The only responsibility schools will have is to provide the list of the names of parents and guardians to the Department of Health and Senior Services.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Justus; Missouri Family Network; and American Cancer Society.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that the drug company that offers the vaccine should reimburse the state for the

educational materials and that sexually transmitted diseases are an epidemic that is not being addressed.

Testifying against the bill was Concerned Women for America of Missouri.