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## DIGEST

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HB 742 Original

2026 Regular Session

Amedee

**Abstract:** Repeals the requirement that a recipient of Medicaid or the Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program (FITAP) be immunized as a condition of eligibility.

Present law requires the secretary of the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the secretary of the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) to require each recipient of specified public assistance programs, or the recipient's parent or guardian, to provide sufficient evidence of immunity or immunization against vaccine-preventable diseases according to a schedule established by the office of public health, or show that an immunization program is in progress.

Present law provides that failure to comply within a reasonable time after written notice will result in suspension of public assistance benefits until compliance is demonstrated.

Present law exempts individuals from compliance if a physician provides a written statement that an immunization is medically contraindicated or if the individual or parent or guardian objects on religious grounds.

Present law requires DCFS and LDH to adopt rules and regulations to implement present law and requires the office of public health to establish the required immunization schedule by rule.

Present law requires LDH to seek any necessary federal waiver to ensure full federal participation, to report the approval or denial of such waiver to the Senate and House health and welfare committees, and provides that failure to obtain a waiver for one or more programs does not prevent implementation of other programs once waivers are approved, if required.

Present law applies to FITAP and medical assistance under the Medicaid program.

Present law defines "recipient" as a public assistance recipient under eighteen years of age and all of the recipient's dependents who are under eighteen years of age.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Repeals R.S. 46:231.4 and Act No. 478 of 2025 R.S., §13)