

CHAPTER 25

AN ACT concerning meningitis, supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes and Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes, and making an appropriation.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

C.26:2X-1 Public awareness campaign relative to meningitis.

1. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services shall establish a public awareness campaign to inform the general public about the clinical significance of meningitis and its public health implications, including its causes and the most effective means of prevention and treatment.

C.18A:61D-7 Provision of information regarding meningitis to students at four-year colleges.

2. Beginning with the 2000-2001 school year, each four-year public or private institution of higher education in this State, in a manner prescribed by regulation of the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services and consistent with the purposes of section 1 of P.L.2000, c.25 (C.26:2X-1), shall:

a. provide information about meningitis to all prospective students prior to their matriculation, and include with that information notice of the availability and benefits of a meningitis vaccination; and

b. develop procedures for facilitating, receiving and recording student responses to the information provided about meningitis and the meningitis vaccination, including the student's decision to receive the vaccination.

C.26:2X-2 Rules, regulations.

3. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), shall adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act.

4. There is appropriated \$50,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Senior Services to carry out the purposes of this act.

5. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved May 11, 2000.