

**As Introduced**

**135th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2023-2024**

**S. B. No. 144**

**Senator Romanchuk**

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**A BILL**

To amend section 4729.41 of the Revised Code 1  
regarding immunizations administered by 2  
pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and pharmacy 3  
technicians. 4

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 4729.41 of the Revised Code be 5  
amended to read as follows: 6

**Sec. 4729.41.** (A) (1) A pharmacist licensed under this 7  
chapter who meets the requirements of division (B) of this 8  
section, ~~and~~ a pharmacy intern licensed under this chapter who 9  
meets the requirements of division (B) of this section and is 10  
working under the direct supervision of a pharmacist who meets 11  
the requirements of that division, and a certified pharmacy 12  
technician or a registered pharmacy technician who meets the 13  
requirements of division (B) of this section and is working 14  
under the direct supervision of a pharmacist who meets the 15  
requirements of that division, may do any of the following: 16

~~(a) In the case of~~ administer to an individual who is 17  
~~seven-five~~ years of age or older ~~but not more than thirteen-~~ 18  
~~years of age, administer to the individual an immunization for-~~ 19

<del>any of the following:</del>	20
<del>(i) Influenza;</del>	21
<del>(ii) COVID-19;</del>	22
<del>(iii) Any other disease, but only pursuant to a prescription.</del>	23 24
<del>(b) In the case of an individual who is thirteen years of age or older, administer to the individual an immunization for any disease, including an immunization for influenza or COVID- 19.</del>	25 26 27 28
(2) As part of engaging in the administration of immunizations or supervising a pharmacy intern's, <u>certified pharmacy technician's, or registered pharmacy technician's</u> administration of immunizations, a pharmacist may administer epinephrine or diphenhydramine, or both, to individuals in emergency situations resulting from adverse reactions to the immunizations administered by the pharmacist <del>or</del> , <u>pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician.</u>	29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37
(B) For a pharmacist <del>or</del> , <u>pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician</u> to be authorized to engage in the administration of immunizations, the pharmacist <del>or</del> , <u>pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician</u> shall do all of the following:	38 39 40 41 42
(1) Successfully complete a course in the administration of immunizations that meets the requirements established in rules adopted under this section for such courses;	43 44 45
(2) Receive and maintain certification to perform basic life-support procedures by successfully completing a basic life-	46 47

support training course that is certified by the American red 48  
cross or American heart association or approved by the state 49  
board of pharmacy; 50

(3) Practice in accordance with a protocol that meets the 51  
requirements of division (C) of this section. 52

(C) All of the following apply with respect to the 53  
protocol required by division (B) (3) of this section: 54

(1) The protocol shall be established by a physician 55  
authorized under Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code to practice 56  
medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery. 57

(2) The protocol shall specify a definitive set of 58  
treatment guidelines and the locations at which a pharmacist ~~or~~ 59  
, pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered 60  
pharmacy technician may engage in the administration of 61  
immunizations. 62

(3) The protocol shall satisfy the requirements 63  
established in rules adopted under this section for protocols. 64

(4) The protocol shall include provisions for 65  
implementation of the following requirements: 66

(a) The pharmacist ~~or~~ , pharmacy intern, certified 67  
pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician who 68  
administers an immunization shall observe the individual who 69  
receives the immunization to determine whether the individual 70  
has an adverse reaction to the immunization. The length of time 71  
and location of the observation shall comply with the rules 72  
adopted under this section establishing requirements for 73  
protocols. The protocol shall specify procedures to be followed 74  
by a pharmacist when administering epinephrine ~~or~~ 75  
diphenhydramine, or both, to an individual who has an adverse 76

reaction to an immunization administered by the pharmacist or by 77  
a pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered 78  
pharmacy technician. 79

(b) For each immunization administered to an individual by 80  
a pharmacist ~~or~~, pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy 81  
technician, or registered pharmacy technician, other than an 82  
immunization for influenza administered to an individual 83  
eighteen years of age or older, the pharmacist ~~or~~, pharmacy 84  
intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy 85  
technician shall notify the individual's primary care provider 86  
or, if the individual has no primary care provider, the board of 87  
health of the health district in which the individual resides or 88  
the authority having the duties of a board of health for that 89  
district under section 3709.05 of the Revised Code. The notice 90  
shall be given not later than thirty days after the immunization 91  
is administered. 92

(c) For each immunization administered by a pharmacist ~~or~~ 93  
, pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered 94  
pharmacy technician to an individual younger than eighteen years 95  
of age, the pharmacist ~~or~~, a pharmacy intern, certified 96  
pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician shall 97  
obtain permission from the individual's parent or legal guardian 98  
in accordance with the procedures specified in rules adopted 99  
under this section. 100

(d) For each immunization administered by a pharmacist, 101  
pharmacy intern, certified pharmacy technician, or registered 102  
pharmacy technician to an individual who is younger than 103  
eighteen years of age, the pharmacist, pharmacy intern, 104  
certified pharmacy technician, or registered pharmacy technician 105  
shall inform the individual's parent or legal guardian of the 106

<u>importance of well child visits with a pediatrician or other</u>	107
<u>primary care provider and shall refer patients when appropriate.</u>	108
(D) (1) No pharmacist shall do either of the following:	109
(a) Engage in the administration of immunizations unless	110
the requirements of division (B) of this section have been met;	111
(b) Delegate to any person the pharmacist's authority to	112
engage in or supervise the administration of immunizations.	113
(2) No pharmacy intern shall engage in the administration	114
of immunizations unless the requirements of division (B) of this	115
section have been met.	116
<u>(3) No certified pharmacy technician or registered</u>	117
<u>pharmacy technician shall engage in the administration of</u>	118
<u>immunizations unless the requirements of division (B) of this</u>	119
<u>section have been met.</u>	120
(E) (1) The state board of pharmacy shall adopt rules to	121
implement this section. The rules shall be adopted in accordance	122
with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code and shall include the	123
following:	124
(a) Requirements for courses in administration of	125
immunizations, including requirements that are consistent with	126
any standards established for such courses by the centers for	127
disease control and prevention;	128
(b) Requirements for protocols to be followed by	129
pharmacists <del> and</del> , <u>pharmacy interns, certified pharmacy</u>	130
<u>technicians, and registered pharmacy technicians</u> in engaging in	131
the administration of immunizations;	132
(c) Procedures to be followed by pharmacists <del> and</del> , <u></u>	133
<u>pharmacy interns, certified pharmacy technicians, and registered</u>	134

pharmacy technicians in obtaining from the individual's parent 135  
or legal guardian permission to administer immunizations to an 136  
individual younger than eighteen years of age. 137

(2) Prior to adopting rules regarding requirements for 138  
protocols to be followed by pharmacists ~~and~~, pharmacy interns, 139  
certified pharmacy technicians, and registered pharmacy 140  
technicians in engaging in the administration of immunizations, 141  
the state board of pharmacy shall consult with the state medical 142  
board and the board of nursing. 143

**Section 2.** That existing section 4729.41 of the Revised 144  
Code is hereby repealed. 145