

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 498

2021 Regular Session

Edmonston

DISCRIMINATION: Prohibits discrimination by government agencies and officials on the basis of vaccination or immunity status

DIGEST

Proposed law prohibits a state or local government official or agency from distinguishing between individuals based on whether a person has or has not had a vaccination or is or is not immune to a virus. Provides examples of discrimination that is prohibited.

Proposed law provides exceptions applicable to providing medical services.

Proposed law provides an exception for present law immunization requirements for students, except for vaccines targeting COVID-19 or SARS-COV2.

Proposed law authorizes any person to commence a suit for the issuance of a writ of mandamus or injunctive or declaratory relief to require compliance with the provisions of proposed law, together with reasonable attorney fees and costs.

Proposed law provides that no private or public entity shall discriminate in any way against a person based upon their COVID-19 vaccination status. Proposed law further provides that the discrimination ban based upon COVID-19 vaccination status will remain in place only until that date that a vaccine for the COVID-19 virus has been fully approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and is no longer subject to emergency use authorization.

(Adds R.S. 49:186)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Civil Law and Procedure to the original bill:

1. Add an exception prohibiting government officials or agencies from distinguishing COVID-19 immunization requirements for students.
2. Remove the venue provision.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary A to the reengrossed bill

1. Bans discrimination based upon COVID-19 vaccination status.
2. Provides that the ban on discrimination will remain effective until a COVID-19 vaccination has been fully approved by the FDA and is no longer subject to emergency use authorization.