AMENDED

June 5, 2012

**H. 4497**

Introduced by Reps. Sellers, Johnson, Brady, Gilliard, Jefferson and Knight

S. Printed 6/5/12--S.

Read the first time May 1, 2012.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 44‑29‑187 SO AS TO ENACT THE “CERVICAL CANCER PREVENTION ACT”; TO PROVIDE THAT BEGINNING WITH THE 2012‑2013 SCHOOL YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL SHALL OFFER AS AN OPTION THE CERVICAL CANCER VACCINE SERIES TO FEMALE STUDENTS ENROLLING IN THE SEVENTH GRADE; TO PROVIDE THE STUDENT MAY ONLY RECEIVE THESE VACCINATIONS AT THE OPTION OF THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF THE CHILD; TO PROVIDE A PROCEDURE THROUGH WHICH A PARENT OR GUARDIAN MAY EXERCISE THE OPTION FOR THEIR CHILD TO RECEIVE THESE VACCINATIONS; TO REQUIRE A RELATED EDUCATION PROGRAM; AND TO PROVIDE THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION IS CONTINGENT UPON STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING.

Amend Title To Conform

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. This act may be cited as the “Cervical Cancer Prevention Act”.

SECTION 2. Chapter 29, Title 44 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 44‑29‑187. (A) Beginning with the 2012‑2013 school year, the Department of Health and Environmental Control may offer the cervical cancer vaccination for adolescent students enrolling in the seventh grade in any school, public or private, in this State. No student is required to have the cervical cancer series before enrolling or attending school.

(B)(1) The department may develop and provide to each school whose grade levels include grade six informational brochures concerning adolescent vaccinations, including the cervical cancer vaccination series. The information may also specifically mention the optional nature of the cancer vaccination series and shall encourage the parent or guardian of a student to take the child to their own health care provider to be vaccinated.

(2) At the beginning of the school year each school district may provide these informational brochures to the parents or guardians of all students in the sixth grade.

(C) For the purposes of this section ‘cervical cancer vaccination series’ means the human papillomavirus vaccination series.

(D) Implementation of this section is contingent upon the appropriation of state and federal funding to the department to fully cover the costs of providing this vaccine to eligible students as well as the availability of funds to produce the informational materials referenced in this section.”

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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