

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2025 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **Senate Bill 556**

By Senators Tarr and Chapman

[Introduced February 20, 2025; referred  
to the Committee on Health and Human Resources]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section,  
2 designated §49-2-127b, relating to immunizations; prohibiting the requirement of certain  
3 immunizations as condition of being a foster parent; and providing an exception.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

## **ARTICLE 2. STATE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CHILDREN.**

### **§49-2-127b. Immunization not a condition of overseeing child in foster care – Exceptions.**

1 The Department of Human Services and the Department of Health Services shall not  
2 require an individual or members of the individual's household to undergo an immunization as a  
3 condition of overseeing a child in foster care under this chapter unless the child has a medically  
4 verified immunosuppressive disease diagnosis that requires exceptional prevention measures  
5 that would necessitate the caregiver or members of the caregiver's household be immunized. If a  
6 child has a medically verified immunosuppressive disease diagnosis that requires exceptional  
7 prevention measures, the department shall require each individual in the household to have up-to-  
8 date recommended immunizations as established in rule by the department.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to prohibit the requirement of certain immunizations as condition of being a foster parent and provide an exception.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.