**Bill Summary** 1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature

> Bill No.: Version: Request No.: Author: Date:

SB 658 CCR 2221 Sen. Standridge 05/20/2021

## **Bill Analysis**

SB 658 requires the State Department of Education and school districts to provide in any notice or publication provided to parents regarding immunization requests the immunization requirements of the school, including the requirement to either provide current, up-to-date immunization records or a signed and completed exemption form. The measure also prohibits any school district, institution of Higher Education, the State Board of Education, or the State Board of Career and Technology Education from requiring a vaccination against COVID-19 as a condition of admittance to or attendance of the school or institution. Such entities are also prohibited from requiring a vaccine passport as a condition of admittance or implementing a mask mandate for students that are not vaccinated against COVID-19.

School districts may only implement a mask mandate after consultation with the local county health department or city-county health department within the jurisdiction of where the board is located. The mandate must list the purposes for the mandate as well as the specific masks or medical devices that would meet the requirements of the mandate. Mask mandates shall be reconsidered at each regularly scheduled board meeting. Additionally, the measure provides that citizens of the district may challenge the mandate at a school district meeting by citing 3 or more relevant studies that show possible significant adverse effects as a result of wearing a mask or medical device that would be required under the mandate or by citing 3 or more studies showing the mandate will not be effective. Citizens may also challenge the mandate by providing documentation showing that any mask or medical device that would satisfy the mandate is shown by one or more relevant studies to pose a risk of substantial harm if used in a manner cited in the mandate.

## **CCR Changes**

The Conference Committee Report for SB 658 adds new language prohibiting certain entities from implementing mandatory vaccinations as a condition to admittance and from requiring non-vaccinated populations to wear masks. The CCR also adds new language relating to implementing a mask mandate under certain conditions and provides for citizens of a school district to challenge the mask mandate.

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