

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 1154**HOUSE BILL NO. 3146****By Representatives Lois DeBerry, Armstrong****Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 3145****By Senators Black, Harper**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49; Title 68 and Title 71, relative to asthma.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section thereto:

Section 49-1-2___. The department of health in consultation with the department of education and the bureau of TennCare, shall develop a comprehensive state plan to reduce the burden of asthma on Tennessee school children. The comprehensive plan shall at a minimum:

(1) Promote the development of school asthma action plans between LEAs and local health agencies. School asthma action plans shall include emergency protocols for medical emergencies due to asthma complications;

(2) Encourage schools to have individual asthma action plans for students with asthma;

(3) Encourage in-service training for teachers, and encourage athletic coaches and athletes to participate in the American Lung Association's asthma treatment training;

(4) Encourage the development of education for local boards of education and the public concerning self-administration of asthma medications; and

(5) Promote procedures to reduce exposure to smoke, allergens and other irritants in school buildings, on school grounds and at school events.

Such plan shall be developed before the 2009-2010 school year. The department shall report on the design of the plan to the senate general welfare, health and human resources committee and the house health and human resources committee no later than September 1, 2010.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated chapter thereto:

§ 68-__-101.

(a) The department of health is hereby directed to study the prevalence and severity of asthma in the state of Tennessee. This study shall include but not be limited to an analysis of data from the hospital discharge data system to identify patterns of asthma prevalence in Tennessee and opportunities to improve care quality and health outcomes. In carrying out the requirements of this section, the department is authorized to contract with outside experts, consultants, and other entities as it deems appropriate. Any costs associated with this study shall be provided through existing funding.

(b) From its study, the department of health shall determine whether a pilot project in a Tennessee municipality with a high incidence of asthma should be developed. The goal of such pilot project shall be the reduction of asthma and asthma-related illnesses in such municipality and shall include accessibility and compliance with medication protocols.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 21, 2008



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY, SPEAKER
SENATE OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 13th day of June 2008



PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR