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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Introduced By: Senators DiMario, Cano, Lawson, Valverde, Miller, Pearson, Lauria,
Bissaillon, Euer, and Murray

Date Introduced: January 12, 2024

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 23-1-45 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-1 entitled "Department
2 of Health" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **23-1-45. Immunization account.**

4 (a) There is created within the general fund a restricted receipt account to be known as the
5 "childhood immunization account". All money in the account shall be utilized by the department
6 of health to effectuate the provisions of § 23-1-44 that relate to the childhood immunization
7 program. All money received pursuant to §§ 23-1-46 and 23-1-47 for the childhood immunization
8 program shall be deposited in the childhood immunization account. Funding dedicated exclusively
9 to effectuate the provisions of § 23-1-44 and this subsection received by the department of health
10 from sources other than those identified in §§ 23-1-46 and 23-1-47 may also be deposited in the
11 childhood immunization account. Up to 15% of the annual revenues from this account may be used
12 to support costs associated with childhood immunization program administrative and quality
13 assurance services and KIDSNET. The general treasurer is authorized and directed to draw his or
14 her orders on the account upon receipt of properly authenticated vouchers from the department of
15 health. Provided that for FY 2025 only, the department shall use up to eight hundred and fifty
16 thousand dollars (\$850,000) of available resources from the account to effectuate coverage for the
17 following services: the existing PediPRN and MomsPRN information lines together with any
18 additional information line, referral service, or hotline which is available to providers or residents
19 in the state, and which is funded pursuant to regulation adopted by the director of the department

1 of health. The department must submit a report to the speaker of the house and senate president no
2 later than March 1, 2025, regarding use of these funds as well as recommendations for support
3 beyond FY 2025.

4 (b) There is created within the general fund a restricted receipt account to be known as the
5 “pandemic medications and equipment account” for the purposes of funding pandemic medications
6 and equipment. There shall be an expenditure in FY 2007 not to exceed one million dollars
7 (\$1,000,000) for pandemic influenza medications and equipment. Funding dedicated exclusively
8 to effectuate the provisions of this subsection and received by the department of health from sources
9 other than those identified in §§ 23-1-45, 23-1-46 and 23-1-47 may also be deposited in the
10 pandemic medications and equipment account. The general treasurer is authorized and directed to
11 draw his or her orders on the account upon receipt of properly authenticated vouchers from the
12 department of health.

13 (c) There is created within the general fund a restricted receipt account to be known as the
14 “adult immunization account”. All funds in the account shall be utilized by the department of health
15 to effectuate the provisions of § 23-1-44 that relate to the adult immunization program. All funds
16 received for adult immunization programs pursuant to §§ 23-1-46 and 23-1-47 shall be deposited
17 in the adult immunization account. Funding dedicated exclusively to effectuate the provisions of
18 this subsection and received by the department of health from sources other than those identified
19 in §§ 23-1-46 and 23-1-47 may also be deposited in the adult immunization account. The general
20 treasurer is authorized and directed to draw his or her orders on the account upon receipt of properly
21 authenticated vouchers from the department of health. Provided that for FY 2025 only, the
22 department shall use up to eight hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$850,000) of available
23 resources from the account to effectuate coverage for the following services: the existing PediPRN
24 and MomsPRN information lines together with any additional information line, referral service, or
25 hotline which is available to providers or residents in the state, and which is funded pursuant to
26 regulation adopted by the director of the department of health. The department must submit a report
27 to the speaker of the house and senate president no later than March 1, 2025, regarding use of these
28 funds as well as recommendations for support beyond FY 2025.

29 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

1 This act would designate, for fiscal year 2025, the usage for certain funds within the
2 immunization account.

3 This act would take effect on July 1, 2024.

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