



OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET

State Budget Office

One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908-5890

Office: (401) 222-6300

State Fiscal Note for Bill Number:

2026-H 7934

Date of State Budget Office Approval: Monday, March 30, 2026

Date Requested: Monday, March 9, 2026

Date Due: Thursday, March 19, 2026

<i>Impact on Expenditures</i>	<i>Impact on Revenues</i>
FY 2026 \$0	FY 2026 N/A
FY 2027 \$219,100	FY 2027 N/A
FY 2028 \$223,159	FY 2028 N/A

Explanation by State Budget Office:

This bill amends §5-19.1-31 to expand the authority of pharmacists to administer routine, scheduled, or recommended immunizations to individuals between the ages of three (3) and eighteen (18) years, replacing the current limitation to influenza and COVID-19 vaccines. The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) anticipates a fiscal impact associated with increased oversight and compliance requirements, including participation of pharmacies in the federal Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program and increased regulatory activity.

Summary of Facts and Assumptions:

RIDOH indicates that allowing pharmacies to administer routine childhood immunizations would likely require those pharmacies to enroll in the federal Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. Participation in the VFC Program carries additional federal compliance requirements, including annual site visits and enhanced monitoring activities that exceed current pharmacy oversight practices. To meet these requirements, RIDOH estimates the need for one additional full-time equivalent (FTE) position at a Grade 28 level, with an estimated annual cost of \$150,014 (salary and fringe).

In addition, RIDOH anticipates that expanding pharmacist-administered immunizations may result in an increase in complaints and investigations related to pharmacy practices. To address this potential workload, RIDOH estimates that an additional 0.5 FTE at a Grade 31 level (approximately \$69,086 salary and fringe) may be required. However, the need for this position is uncertain and dependent on the volume of complaints and enforcement activity following implementation.

RIDOH does not anticipate additional licensing costs associated with this legislation, as pharmacies are already licensed under existing statutory authority. The bill operates within the current consent and reporting framework, including reporting to the Rhode Island Child and Adult Immunization Registry (RICAIR), although increased participation may require additional oversight.

The bill takes effect upon passage; however, this analysis assumes that costs would begin in FY 2027 to allow for implementation, hiring, and onboarding of additional staff.



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Comments on Sources of Funds:

General revenue funds would support the additional staffing required by RIDOH. While certain program activities are federally regulated, no federal funding has been identified at this time to offset these costs.

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

FY 2026: No fiscal impact.

FY 2027: General revenue expenditures of \$219,100.

FY 2028: General revenue expenditures of \$223,159.

Budget Office Signature: _____

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Digitally signed by Joseph
Codega
Date: 2026.03.31 09:14:08
-04'00'

Fiscal Advisor Signature: _____

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