

3 Senate Bill No. 696

4 SENATE BILL NO. 696 - By: WILKERSON of the Senate and PAULK of the
5 House.

6 An Act relating to public health and safety; defining terms;
7 directing the State Department of Health to offer certain
8 vaccinations to certain law enforcement and emergency
9 personnel; requiring certain personnel to be vaccinated;
10 providing exemption; stating priority; directing
11 notification; providing for certain contract; making
12 implementation contingent on receipt of certain federal
13 funds; providing for codification; and declaring an
14 emergency.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-560 of Title 63, unless there
18 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 A. As used in this section:

20 1. "Department" means the State Department of Health;

21 2. "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the State
22 Department of Health;

23 3. "Bioterrorism" means the intentional use of any
24 microorganism, virus, infectious substance or biological product
25 that may be engineered as a result of biotechnology or any naturally
26 occurring or bioengineered component of any microorganism, virus,
27 infectious substance or biological product, to cause or attempt to

1 cause death, disease or other biological malfunction in any living
2 organism;

3 4. "Disaster locations" means any geographical location where a
4 bioterrorism attack, terrorist attack, catastrophic or natural
5 disaster or emergency occurs; and

6 5. "First responders" means state and local law enforcement
7 personnel, fire department personnel, and emergency medical
8 personnel who will be deployed to bioterrorism attacks, terrorist
9 attacks, catastrophic or natural disasters and emergencies.

10 B. The Department shall offer a vaccination program for first
11 responders who may be exposed to infectious diseases when deployed
12 to disaster locations. The vaccinations will include, but are not
13 limited to, Hepatitis A Vaccination, Hepatitis B Vaccination,
14 Diphtheria-Tetanus Vaccination, Influenza Vaccination, Pneumococcal
15 Vaccination and other vaccinations when recommended by the U. S.
16 Public Health Service and in accordance with Federal Emergency
17 Management Directors Policy. Immune globulin will be made available
18 when necessary.

19 C. Participation in the vaccination program will be voluntary
20 by the first responders, except for first responders who are
21 classified as having "occupational exposure" to bloodborne pathogens
22 as defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration
23 Standard contained at 29 CFR 1910.1030 who shall be required to take

1 the designated vaccinations or who are otherwise required by law to
2 be vaccinated.

3 D. A first responder shall be exempt from vaccinations when a
4 written statement from a licensed physician is presented indicating
5 that a vaccine is medically contraindicated for that person or the
6 first responder signs a written statement that the administration of
7 a vaccination conflicts with the first responder's religious tenets.

8 E. In the event of a vaccine shortage, the Commissioner, in
9 consultation with the Governor and the Centers for Disease Control
10 and Prevention, shall give priority for vaccination to first
11 responders.

12 F. The Department shall notify first responders of the
13 availability of the vaccination program and shall provide
14 educational materials on ways to prevent exposure to infectious
15 diseases.

16 G. The Department may contract with county and local health
17 departments, not-for-profit home health care agencies, hospitals and
18 physicians to administer a vaccination program for first responders.

19 H. The provisions of this section shall not be implemented
20 until receipt by the state of Oklahoma of federal funding or federal
21 grants for administering a first responders vaccination program.
22 Upon receipt of the funding, the Department shall make available the
23 vaccines to first responders as provided herein.

1 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
2 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
3 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
4 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

5 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY AFFAIRS &
6 PUBLIC SAFETY, dated 2-17-03 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.