



**County  
Health Officials  
of New York**  
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# SUPPORTS

**A.6846/S.4975 (McDonald/Breslin)**

**AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to authorizing the administration of vaccines for hepatitis A, hepatitis B, and human papillomavirus by a licensed pharmacist and by a certified nurse practitioner**

The New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO), on behalf of all 58 Local Departments of Health, supports A.6846/S.4975, which extend and expand current provisions in the education law, in relation to administration of vaccines for hepatitis A, hepatitis B and human papillomavirus by a licensed pharmacist.

NYSACHO is committed to improving and preventing disease; and increasing adult immunization rates is an evidence-based public health intervention. Given the outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases, it is imperative we utilize and expand the responsibilities of the professional health workforce in New York State.

CDC's viral hepatitis surveillance data show that in 2016, there were 0.5 hepatitis A cases per 100,000 population in New York State which was above the national goal of 0.3 cases per 100,000. The reported cases of acute hepatitis B in New York State in 2016, was 0.5 cases per 100,000 which was lower than the national goal of 1.5 cases per 100,000, however New York reported the highest number of new confirmed chronic hepatitis B cases nationwide. Human papillomavirus is a very common infection and is estimated that one in four Americans is infected with the virus. While most infections resolve on its own, HPV infections which last longer can cause certain types of cancer and on average, 2,375 New York State residents are diagnosed with an HPV-related cancer each year.

In addition to vaccines that pharmacists currently administer, expanding the provision to include vaccines for hepatitis A, hepatitis B and human papillomavirus will help increase immunization rates and consequently decrease the incidence of vaccine-preventable diseases that adversely impact families and communities.

NYSACHO acknowledges the continued efforts of the New York State Senate and Assembly in safeguarding the public's health, and for the reasons stated above, we strongly support this bill and recommend it to be enacted into law.

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CDC, 2016. Viral Hepatitis Surveillance United States 2016. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/statistics/2016surveillance/index.htm>. Accessed on June 17<sup>th</sup> 2019. HPV-Related Cancers and HPV Vaccination Rates in New York State. Retrieved from [https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/cancer/docs/hpv\\_related\\_cancers\\_and\\_vaccination\\_rates\\_2015.pdf](https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/cancer/docs/hpv_related_cancers_and_vaccination_rates_2015.pdf). Accessed on June 17<sup>th</sup> 2019.