

**SENATE OF PAKISTAN**  
*House of the Federation*



REPORT NO. 5 OF 2019

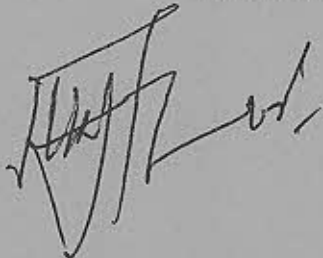
REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL HEALTH  
SERVICES, REGULATIONS & COORDINATION

ON

"THE ISLAMABAD COMPULSORY VACCINATION AND PROTECTION OF  
HEALTH WORKERS BILL, 2019" MOVED BY SENATOR AYESHA RAZA  
FAROOQ IN THE SENATE SITTING HELD ON 04-03-2019

PRESENTED BY

SENATOR MIAN MUHAMMAD ATEEQ SHAIKH  
CHAIRMAN (COMMITTEE)



## SENATE SECRETARIAT

### REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES, REGULATIONS & COORDINATION ON THE BILL TITLED "THE ISLAMABAD COMPULSORY VACCINATION AND PROTECTION OF HEALTH WORKERS BILL 2019" MOVED BY SENATOR AYESHA RAZA FAROOQ IN THE SENATE SITTING HELD ON 04-03-2019

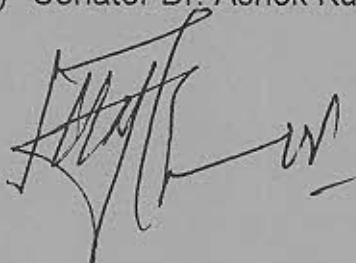
1. Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh, Chairman, Senate Standing Committee on National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination, have the honour to submit, on behalf of the Committee, this report on the Bill titled "The Islamabad Compulsory Vaccination And Protection Of Health Workers Bill, 2019" referred by the House to the Standing Committee on National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination in its sitting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.

2. The Composition of the Standing Committee is as under:-

1) Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh	Chairman
2) Senator Dr. Ghous Muhammad Khan Niazi	Member
3) Senator Ayesha Raza Farooq	Member
4) Senator Dilawar Khan	Member
5) Senator Dr. Asad Ashraf	Member
6) Senator Dr. Ashok Kumar	Member
7) Senator Dr. Sikandar Mandhro	Member
8) Senator Liaqat Khan Tarakai	Member
9) Senator Prof. Dr. Mehr Taj Roghani	Member
10) Senator Sana Jamali	Member
11) Senator Sardar Muhammad Shafiq Tareen	Member
12) Senator Manzoor Ahmed Khan Kakar	Member

3. The Committee considered and discussed the Bill in detail in its meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2019. The following Members of the Committee attended the meeting.

1) Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh	Chairman
2) Senator Dr. Ghous Muhammad Khan Niazi	Member
3) Senator Dilawar Khan	Member
4) Senator Dr. Asad Ashraf	Member
5) Senator Dr. Sikandar Mandhro	Member
6) Senator Dr. Ashok Kumar	Member



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| 7) Senator Liaqat Khan Tarakai           | Member |
| 8) Senator Sana Jamali                   | Member |
| 9) Senator Sardar Muhammad Shafiq Tareen | Member |

4. An extensive discussion took place on this bill in the meetings of the Standing Committee held on 02-05-2019 and thereby amendments were proposed by the members which were duly vetted by the Ministry. The same matter was taken up under agenda item for the meeting of the Committee held on 12-07-19 and 29-07-19 respectively. The Ministry presented its briefing in support of the bill but with certain amendments. The amendment was related to the extension in the age of primary vaccination up to 15 months instead of 6 months. It was proposed in section 3, sub-session (1) of the said bill. The chair sought the consent of the mover about the same amendment. After seeking the consent, the bill was approved by the Committee unanimously.

5. After discussion and deliberation, the Committee recommends that the bill titled "The Islamabad Compulsory Vaccination And Protection of Health Workers Bill, 2019" may be passed by the House as introduced in the Senate.

6. **The committee has directed the ministry to formulate the rules under the said Act not later than 3 months from the approval of the same from both Houses of the Parliament and report back to the Senate Standing Committee on National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination through notification of formulation of the relevant rules.**

7. The bill as introduced in the Senate is placed at Annexure-A.



(Altaf Ahmed Shaikh)

Secretary Committee



(SENATOR MIAN MUHAMMAD ATEEQ SHAIKH)

Chairman (Committee)

As  
[~~TO BE~~ INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]

A

BILL

*to give power to make the vaccination for universal immunization of children compulsory and to protect the health workers designated for immunization programs*

**WHEREAS** it is expedient to give power to make the vaccination for universal immunization of children compulsory and to provide for the security of persons employed as health workers for performing vaccinations;

It is hereby enacted as follows:

**1. Short title, extent and commencement.** – (1) This Act may be called the Islamabad Compulsory Vaccination and Protection of Health Workers Act, 2019.

(2) It extends to Islamabad Capital Territory.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

**2. Definitions.**– In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context;

(a) "child" means an individual of an age prescribed by Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) department, Government of Pakistan;

(b) "designated Medical Officer" means the Medical Officer designated by the Federal Government;

(c) "designated vaccine preventable disease" means any one of the infectious diseases included in Expanded Programme of Immunization's Schedule for which vaccination shall be mandatory, including but not limited to vaccine preventable diseases and any other vaccine prescribed by the Federal Government;

(d) "Expanded Program on Immunization" means a program to provide safe, effective and cost-effective vaccination against vaccine preventable diseases;

(e) "Federal Government" means Ministry concerned for Health services;

(f) "health facility" means a hospital, rural health center, basic health unit, family welfare centers, mother and child healthcare centers, reproductive health centers or a clinic or any other place designated by Federal Government where vaccination services are available or administered to children of prescribed age;



- (g) "Health Worker" means a person authorized by the Federal Government to administer vaccine of a designated vaccine preventable diseases to child and includes a doctor, vaccinator, trained volunteer for immunization or vaccination program, a member of an outreach team or other person whose duty is to assist or help the health worker;
- (h) "outreach team" means a team of health workers which moves around to different places and administer vaccines to children of prescribed age group;
- (i) "parent" means a Father or Mother or as otherwise an individual who, in law, has custody, guardianship or access rights in regards to a child and who may have corollary obligations to financially support a minor, typically by way of child support;
- (j) "prescribed" means prescribed by the rules or regulations made under the Act;
- (k) "Union Council" means the local government which is required by law to maintain child birth record of the local area;
- (l) "unprotected child" means a child who has not been vaccinated or who has not, within a period of five years, been successfully re-vaccinated and who has not been certified under this Act to be insusceptible to vaccination ;
- (m) "vaccination" means administration of quality antigenic material to stimulate an individual's immune system to develop adaptive immunity to a designated vaccine preventable disease;
- (n) "vaccination circle" means a local area or one of the parts into which a local area has been divided under this Act for the performance of vaccination; and
- (o) "Vaccinator" means any person appointed under the Act to perform the operation of vaccination or any private person authorized by the Government to perform the same operation.

**3. Compulsory vaccination.**— (1) Subject to sub-section (2), the parent, as the case may be, of every unprotected child shall complete its primary vaccination before the child attains the age of six months and thereafter shall cause the child to complete the prescribed program of vaccination in relation to each of designated vaccine preventable diseases.

(2) The provisions of sub-section (1) shall not apply to the parent who, in relation to a vaccine of a designated vaccine preventable disease, has obtained a statement of medical exemption in the Form - I specified in the Schedule from a designated Medical Officer and, where the designated Medical Officer has specified an effective time period for exemption, only during the effective time period of exemption and to the extent of the designated vaccine preventable diseases.

(3) Subject to this section, a health worker or an outreach team shall administer vaccine against designated vaccine preventable disease to a child living within the area allocated to the health worker or outreach team.

(4) The designated Medical Officer or in-charge of an outreach team shall issue a certificate of vaccination of a designated vaccine preventable disease to the parent of the child to whom vaccine has been administered in the Form as prescribed by the Federal Government:

Provided that whenever the residence of an unprotected child is changed the parent of such child shall, within one month of such change of residence, communicate the same to the Medical Officer of Health, or any other person authorized by him in this behalf, of the place from which the residence was changed and shall furnish full particulars of the new residence of the child.

**4. Health facilities.**—(1) The Federal Government shall establish, maintain or declare health facilities adequately equipped to maintain vaccine preservation (cold chain) and administer vaccination to all children of prescribed age group and shall form outreach teams for administering vaccination to all children of prescribed age group so identified by the local area administration.

(2) The in-charge of a health facility shall display at prominent place information about vaccination, and special vaccination campaigns and programs.

(3) No fee is to be charged by public health workers and outreach team at a health facility designated by the Federal Government.



5. **Issuance of Birth certificate and Form B.**— A Union Council and the National Database Registration Authority may not issue a birth certificate if information of vaccination of the child is not available with it.

6. **Certain persons to ensure vaccination.**— After admission, an Incharge of a primary or elementary school or Madrassah may ensure that the parent has provided a certified copy of the prescribed Vaccination Certificate that states that the child has been administered requisite vaccine of a designated vaccine preventable disease.

7. **Vaccination during travel.**— The Federal Government may, by general or special order, direct the outreach teams to administer vaccination of a designated vaccine preventable disease to children of prescribed age group at the airports, Railway stations, bus terminals or at entry and exit points of the Islamabad Capital Territory.

8. **Vaccination report.**— (1) Every health facility shall, on monthly basis, maintain a record of vaccination in the area allocated to the health facility in the prescribed manner by designated Medical Officers and Health Workers of the health facility.

(2) It shall be the duty of every Medical Officer in-charge of a health facility to keep the vaccination record open at all times to inspection by a member of the designated authority or local area administration.

9. **Public servant.**— (1) Every designated Medical Officer, Health Worker or any other person authorized under the Act or Rules shall be deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of section 21 of the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860 (Act XLV of 1860).

(2) Every designated Medical Officer or Health Worker shall, in addition to other duties imposed on him under the provisions of this Act or the Rules prescribed therein, ascertain that all unprotected children in the area have obtained primary vaccination or re-vaccination as the case may be, and if it comes to knowledge of designated Medical Officer or Health Worker through their own inspection or secondary information or complaint that a parent has willfully or otherwise omitted to have a child vaccinated with the requisite vaccinations as heretofore mandatory required under this Act, he shall serve the parent with a notice requiring the child to be vaccinated at a time and place specified in such notice.

