

SB 142 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Keny-Guyer

House Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 05/14/19

Action: Do Pass the A-Eng bill.

Vote: 10-0-1-0

Yeas: 10 - Alonso Leon, Boles, Drazan, Hayden, Keny-Guyer, Mitchell, Noble, Nosse, Prusak, Salinas

Exc: 1 - Greenlick

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Oliver Droppers, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Replaces references to "human immunodeficiency virus," "acquired immune deficiency syndrome," and "HIV or hepatitis B or C," with "blood-borne infection," and references to "venereal disease" and "sexually transmitted disease" with "sexually transmitted infection."

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Proposed language; change in use of terminology in recent years
- Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) as a chronic health condition
- Reducing stigma associated with certain terms
- School-based sexual health education
- Inclusion of HIV and hepatitis B and C in the definition of blood-borne infections

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) attacks the body's immune system, specifically the CD4 cells (T cells), which help the immune system fight off infections. Untreated, HIV reduces the number of T cells in the body, making the person more likely to get other infections or infection-related cancers. Over time, HIV can destroy so many of these cells that the body is unable to fight off infections and disease. These opportunistic infections or cancers take advantage of a weakened immune system and signal that the person has acquired immune deficiency syndrome, or AIDS, the last stage of HIV infection. Unlike some other viruses, the human body is unable to eliminate HIV completely, even with treatment.

Senate Bill 142 A replaces references to stigmatizing conditions, including HIV and AIDS, consistent with current clinical usage.