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Title:	IMMUNISATION OF CHILDREN ACT
Country:	SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES
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LAWS OF SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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CHAPTER 289

IMMUNISATION OF CHILDREN ACT

Act 16 of 1982
amended by
* Act 20 of 1987
* S.R.O. 9 of 1991

Numbering of sections

<i>Original number</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i>Present number</i>
1-11	-	1-11
-	incorporates s.3 of Act 27/88	12

Index of subsidiary legislation

Nil

CHAPTER 224
IMMUNISATION OF CHILDREN ACT

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AN ACT for the protection of children from certain diseases by immunisation and for matters connected therewith.

Commencement: 27th April 1982
Act 27 of 1988

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Immunisation of Children Act.

Interpretation.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-

"child" means a person under the age of five;

"health officer" means-

- (i) the Chief Medical Officer;
- (ii) any person appointed as a district medical officer; and
- (iii) any other medical practitioner or other person authorised by the Chief Medical Officer to perform duties under this Act;

"Minister" means the Minister for the time being in charge of the subject of health;

"parent" includes a guardian or other person who, for the time being, has charge of or control over a

child;

"principal" includes any person in charge or control of a day care centre;

"school" includes a day care centre;

"specified disease" means a disease listed in the First Schedule and includes such other disease as the Central Board of Health constituted under section 3 of the Public Health Act [Cap. 232.] may, by notification, specify for the purposes of this Act.

Requirement of vaccination.

3. Every parent shall, before registering or sending his child to school, have that child vaccinated against all specified diseases.

Issue of certificate of vaccination.

4. Every health officer shall, upon vaccinating a child, issue to the parent of that child a certificate of vaccination in the form in the Second Schedule;

Provided that, in relation to vaccination against poliomyelitis, diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis, the certificate may be issued after all the doses have been administered.

Principal not to admit child unless immunised.

5. The principal of a school shall not register a child for attendance at school unless that child has been vaccinated as provided in section 3 and the parent presents valid certificates of vaccination in the form in the Second Schedule.

Register of vaccinations.

6. Every health officer shall keep a register containing the name, address, age and date of vaccination of every child vaccinated by him and shall, on request from the parent, issue a certificate of vaccination or a duplicate thereof.

Vaccinations and certificates to be free of charge.

7. Every vaccination shall be free of charge and no health officer shall charge a fee for vaccination of a child or for the issue of any certificate under this Act.

Storage of vaccine.

8. (1) A medical practitioner, not being a medical officer of Government, shall store vaccine only after obtaining the prior written approval of the Chief Medical Officer.

(2) Every medical practitioner who has been allowed to store vaccine shall store and keep it preserved in such a manner that the potency of the vaccine is fully maintained.

Inspection.

9. (1) The Chief Medical Officer, and any person authorised by him in writing may, at all reasonable times,

enter the premises of any medical officer of Government or a medical practitioner who has been granted permission under section 8 to store vaccine to inspect the storage facilities for the vaccine so as to ensure that the vaccine is stored in proper conditions, including the maintenance of adequate temperature.

(2) Any vaccine found on inspection under subsection (1) to be time expired, or to be improperly stored, shall be seized by the inspecting authority who shall forthwith destroy the same and make an entry to that effect in the register maintained for that purpose.

Offences and penalties.

10. (1) Any person who wilfully signs a false certificate is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of fifteen hundred dollars and to imprisonment for three months.

(2) Any health officer or medical practitioner who knowingly administers a vaccine which is time expired or which has lost its full potency due to improper storage or any other cause is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of fifteen hundred dollars.

(3) Any person who, without reasonable excuse, contravenes the provisions of section 3 is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of seven hundred and fifty dollars.

(4) Any person who, without reasonable excuse, contravenes the provisions of sections 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of four hundred dollars.

(5) Where a person has been convicted of an offence under subsection (3) or (4) and such person continues to contravene the relevant provision, he is liable to a fine of forty dollars for each day during which the contravention continues.

(6) Any person who refuses to allow or who obstructs the Chief Medical Officer or any person authorised by him under section 9 to enter and inspect the storage facilities for vaccine is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of four hundred dollars.

Regulations.

11. (3) The Minister may make regulations-

- (a) prescribing the form and contents of registers;
- (b) modifying the contents of certificates;
- (c) specifying the periods within which immunisation against each specified disease shall be done;
- (d) requiring any person to furnish returns or information;
- (e) prescribing the conditions and the manner in which vaccines may be stored;
- (f) authorising the Chief Medical Officer or other official to exercise such additional supervisory control as he may deem fit so as to effectively implement the provisions of this Act; and
- (g) generally for the purposes of this Act.

Validation.

12. Notwithstanding that this Act was not brought into force until the 22nd November 1988, anything done under this Act between the 27th April 1982, and the 22nd November 1988, shall be deemed to have been lawfully done if done in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

FIRST SCHEDULE

Section 2

1. Tuberculosis.
2. Diphtheria.
3. Poliomyelitis.
4. Measles.
5. Tetanus.
6. Pertussis.

SECOND SCHEDULE

Section 2

CERTIFICATE OF VACCINATION

This is to certify that

aged has this day been vaccinated against
(Name of disease)

at
(place where it is done)

Dated this day of 199 .

(SEAL) Name and designation of
health officer.