

2016 Board of Health Legislative Agenda

The following indicates legislation related to the BOH agenda that has been enacted in 2016.

Issue	Bills Passed by Legislature			
Mental Health/Substance Abuse System Reform	HB1713	Integrating the treatment systems for mental health and chemical dependency.	The Adult Behavioral Health Task Force was established by the legislature in 2014 to make recommendations on: service delivery for adults with mental illness and chemical dependency disorders; availability of effective means to promote recovery and prevent harm associated with mental illness; crisis services, including boarding of mental health patients outside of regularly certified treatment beds; best practices for cross-system collaboration; and public safety practices.	Passed
Substance Abuse Treatment			None	
Electronic Cigarette (Vaping) Regulation	SB6328	Vapor products	Concerning vapor products in respect to provisions concerning certain child-resistant packaging, definitions related to "vapor product," signage requirements prohibiting vapor product sales to minors, prohibition of the purchase and possession of vapor products by minors, the liquor and cannabis board's enforcement authority over vapor products, requirement for vendor-assisted sales of vapor products in retail establishments, license requirement for retail sales and distributor, labeling requirements, internet sales requirements, child-resistant packaging, some restrictions on use in public places, allows tasting/sampling in retail vape stores.	Passed
Immunizations			None	
Distracted and Impaired Driving	HB2700	Impaired driving	Strengthens numerous provisions related to impaired driving penalties.	Passed
Adult Oral Health			None	
Sick and Safe Leave from Employment			None	

Educational Opportunities and Learning Environment	HB1541	Educational opportunity gap	Implements various recommendations of the task force, including: 1) for discretionary discipline, schools cannot expel students, only suspend, and must provide alternative learning opportunities during suspension period; 2) requires cultural competency training for teachers and administrations; 3) requires training programs in bi-lingual and English language learner teaching; 4) requires student data to be more detailed in regards to race and ethnicity; and 5) adds cultural competence, bi-lingual teaching and English language learning teaching to teacher education standards.	Passed
	HB2449	Reducing truancy	Establishes the keeping kids in school act. Puts in place consistent practices and procedures, beginning in kindergarten, in which schools share information with families about the importance of consistent attendance and the consequences of excessive absences, involves families early, and provides families with information, services, and tools that they may access to improve and maintain their children's school attendance. Requires an initial stay of truancy petition in order to allow for appropriate intervention and prevention before using a court order to enforce attendance laws. Encourages efforts by county juvenile courts and school districts to establish and maintain therapeutic truancy boards and employ other best practices. Increases the number of beds in HOPE centers and crisis residential centers in order to facilitate their use for truant students.	Passed
Homeless Youth	HB1682	Homeless students	Creates homeless student education liaisons in school districts (allocation of .23 per 1,000 students in K-12); establishes a competitive grant program for school districts partnering with housing organizations to find stable housing (up to \$500,000 award, max. 15 districts/year - will require appropriation in state budget)	Passed