

RESOLUTION NO. 26 of 2026

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING HOUSE BILL 737 OF THE 2026 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE REMOVING THE REQUIREMENT FOR SUBMISSION OF EVIDENCE OF IMMUNIZATION AGAINST MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE AS A CONDITION OF SCHOOL ENTRY, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, House Bill 737 (2026 Regular Session) addresses the removal of meningococcal disease from the list of vaccines required for school attendance; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Society for Meningitis Prevention, “meningococcal meningitis is a devastating and unpredictable disease that can kill in a matter of hours or leave survivors with lifelong disabilities, including brain damage, hearing loss, learning disabilities, or limb amputations”; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Society for Meningitis Prevention, “adolescents and young adults are at increased risk because of how they naturally socialize – sharing drinks, living in close quarters, and having frequent close contact. These are normal behaviors parents cannot realistically control;” and

WHEREAS, U.S. meningococcal disease cases have risen sharply since 2021 and now exceed pre-pandemic levels.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby express its opposition to House Bill 737 and urges the Louisiana Legislature to reject any legislation that removes immunization against meningococcal disease as a condition of school entry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission encourages the Legislature to preserve and respect the existing statutory framework requiring immunization against meningococcal disease as a condition of school entry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent, following adoption, to the Louisiana Legislature and to the members of the legislative delegation of Caddo Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED if any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved as to legal form:

Parish Attorney

Date