



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

JOHN HELLERSTEDT, M.D.
COMMISSIONER

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September 1, 2016

RE: Flu Information for Parents of Children in Child-care

Dear Child-care Provider:

In accordance with House Bill (HB) 3184 of the 80th Texas Legislature, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) are enclosing important information regarding influenza (flu) for use in your facility and to be distributed to parents for their information.

The DSHS Immunization Unit has developed an *Influenza (Flu) Fact Sheet for Child-Care Settings* that is included in this mailing. The *Flu Fact Sheet* provides details about the signs, symptoms, transmission and prevention of flu in children. Please assist in preventing influenza by sharing this and the other enclosed information with parents during the month of September by visibly posting them in your facility. In addition, influenza information will be distributed at monthly DFPS orientations and inspections. The DSHS Immunization Unit will distribute materials to child-care facilities during regularly scheduled audits.

Also included in this packet are other flu-related publications. Additional copies of these materials, including the *Flu Fact Sheet*, are available free of charge at www.ImmunizeTexasOrderForm.com. Please visit www.TexasFlu.org for information on the current flu season in Texas, local resources, and downloadable child-oriented materials.

For more information regarding immunization requirements for child-care attendance, please visit www.ImmunizeTexas.com or contact the DSHS Immunization Unit at (800) 252-9152.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret Horton".

Margaret Horton
School Compliance Coordinator
Immunization Unit

Enclosures: Employee Letter
Influenza (Flu) Fact Sheet for Child-Care Settings
Fight the Flu brochure, in English and in Spanish
Ways to Fight the Flu poster
2016-2017 Texas Minimum State Vaccine Requirements for Child-care Facilities