



STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RICK PERRY  
GOVERNOR

February 2, 2007

The Honorable Roger Williams  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol Room 1E.8  
Austin, Texas 78701

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
11:30 AM O'CLOCK

FEB 02 2007

*Roger Williams*

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Pursuant to his powers as the chief executive officer and governor of the State of Texas, Rick Perry has issued the following order:

Executive Order No. RP-65 Relating to the immunization of young women from the cancer-causing Human Papillomavirus.

The official copy of this order is attached to this letter of transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,

*Gregory S. Davidson*

Gregory S. Davidson  
Executive Clerk to the Governor

GSD/gsd

Attachment

# Executive Order

BY THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

Executive Department  
Austin, Texas  
February 2, 2007

EXECUTIVE ORDER  
RP 65

*Relating to the immunization of young women  
from the cancer-causing Human Papillomavirus.*

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WHEREAS, immunization from vaccine-preventable diseases such as Human Papillomavirus (HPV) protects individuals who receive the vaccine; and

WHEREAS, HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection-causing cancer in females in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the United States Food and Drug Administration estimates there are 9,710 new cases of cervical cancer, many of which are caused by HPV, and 3,700 deaths from cervical cancer each year in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Cancer Registry estimates there were 1,169 new cases and 391 deaths from cervical cancer in Texas in 2006; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that the HPV vaccine is highly effective in preventing the infections that are the cause of many of the cervical cancers; and

WHEREAS, HPV vaccine is only effective if administered before infection occurs; and

WHEREAS, the newly approved HPV vaccine is a great advance in the protection of women's health; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend the HPV vaccine for females who are nine years through 26 years of age;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas as the Chief Executive Officer, do hereby order the following:

*Vaccine.* The Department of State Health Services shall make the HPV vaccine available through the Texas Vaccines for Children program for eligible young females up to age 18, and the Health and Human Services Commission shall make the vaccine available to Medicaid-eligible young females from age 19 to 21.

*Rules.* The Health and Human Services Executive Commissioner shall adopt rules that mandate the age appropriate vaccination of all female children for HPV prior to admission to the sixth grade.

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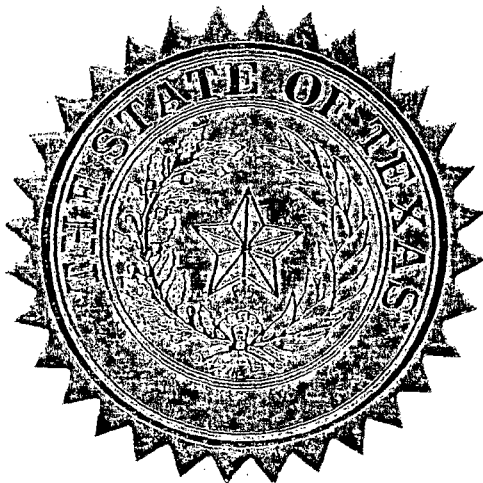
Secretary of State

*Availability.* The Department of State Health Services and the Health and Human Services Commission will move expeditiously to make the vaccine available as soon as possible.

*Public Information.* The Department of State Health Services will implement a public awareness campaign to educate the public of the importance of vaccination, the availability of the vaccine, and the subsequent requirements under the rules that will be adopted.

*Parents' Rights.* The Department of State Health Services will, in order to protect the right of parents to be the final authority on their children's health care, modify the current process in order to allow parents to submit a request for a conscientious objection affidavit form via the Internet while maintaining privacy safeguards under current law.

This executive order supersedes all previous orders on this matter that are in conflict or inconsistent with its terms and this order shall remain in effect and in full force until modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by me or by a succeeding governor.



Given under my hand this the 2nd  
day of February, 2007.

*Rick Perry*  
RICK PERRY  
Governor

ATTESTED BY:

*Roger Williams*  
ROGER WILLIAMS  
Secretary of State

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Secretary of State