

Fax:6097774036

Jun 2 2004 12:41 P.06

**State of New Jersey**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES
DIVISION OF EPIDEMIOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH
PO BOX 369
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0369

www.state.nj.us/health

JAMES E. MCGREEVEY
Governor

CLIFTON R. LAGY, M.D.
Commissioner

May 21, 2004

State of New Jersey
Division of Law
PO Box 112
Trenton, NJ 08625-0112

RE:

Dear

As discussed with the Attorney General's Office on Wednesday, May 19, 2004, the Department of Health and Senior Services - TB Program will recognize religious exemptions to the Mantoux tuberculin skin test mandated for entry into New Jersey schools. If a religious exemption is claimed, however, a tuberculosis symptom assessment must be completed on a state form by a licensed physician or registered nurse (see attached form). If no symptoms are identified, the physician or nurse must sign to that effect. This form will substitute for mandated tuberculosis screening if no symptoms are identified. If any TB-like symptoms are identified, a chest radiograph must be done and read by a licensed medical doctor. The chest radiograph must be free of any active disease process resembling tuberculosis. The physician must sign a statement indicating that the child is free of communicable tuberculosis and this signed statement must be delivered to school officials before admission will be permitted.

If subsequent questions or concerns arise, please call me at (609) 588-7522.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas D. Privett".

Thomas D. Privett
Tuberculosis Program Manager
Department of Health and Senior Services

c: Eddy Bresnitz, M.D., M.S.
Christina Tan, M.D.
Janet DeGraaf
Susan Martz

Attachment