INTRODUCED BY MATZIE, DeLUCA, KULIK, INNAMORATO, BURGOS, GALLOWAY, FREEMAN, ROZZI, YOUNGBLOOD, ZABEL, DELLOSO, SIMS, MADDEN AND SCHLOSSBERG, SEPTEMBER 23, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2020

AN ACT

Establishing the Targeted Outbreak Detection (TOD) System; and imposing duties on the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Health.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the Targeted Outbreak Detection (TOD) Act.

Section 2. Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this act shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Designated laboratory." A laboratory that is accredited by the Department of Environmental Protection or the Department of Health.

"Public health emergency." A declaration by the Governor of a disaster emergency under 35 Pa.C.S. § 7301(c) (relating to
general authority of Governor) that involves public health.

"Sampling collection network." A wastewater treatment facility in the system.

"State laboratory." A laboratory within the Department of Environmental Protection or the Department of Health.

"System." The Targeted Outbreak Detection (TOD) System established under section 3.

"Wastewater." Water that:

1. contains wastes from households, commercial facilities and industrial operations; and
2. may be mixed with surface water, storm water or groundwater that has infiltrated the collection system.

"Wastewater treatment facility." The building, process and equipment needed to treat wastewater, including a facility subject to 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 56 (relating to municipal authorities) or 66 Pa.C.S. (relating to public utilities) and any regulation promulgated thereunder.

Section 3. Targeted Outbreak Detection System.

(a) Establishment.--The Targeted Outbreak Detection (TOD) System is established within the Department of Health.

(b) Purpose.--The purpose of the program is to help public health officials understand and respond to a public health emergency in this Commonwealth through the testing of wastewater.

Section 4. Sampling and testing.

(a) Authority of Department of Health.--The Department of Health may require a wastewater treatment facility in this Commonwealth to participate in the sampling collection network, through which the wastewater treatment facility shall be required to collect and submit wastewater samples as part of a
surveillance plan deemed necessary by the Department of Health.

(b) Procedures.--A wastewater treatment facility required to participate under subsection (a) shall take composite samples of untreated wastewater. The following shall apply:

(1) Samples may be obtained simultaneously with other samples required by the Department of Environmental Protection.

(2) Samples may be obtained using existing sampling and data collection methods.

(3) The wastewater treatment facility shall submit samples to a State laboratory or designated laboratory that is equipped with appropriate analytical instruments, as determined by the Department of Health.

(c) Administration of sampling and testing.--The Department of Health shall:

(1) Manage the system's testing procedures and analysis processes, which shall include extraction, detection, analysis and interpretation of the epidemiological data.

(2) Establish procedures for sampling, analysis, data collection and quality control measures.

(d) Training program.--The Department of Health may establish a training program for wastewater treatment facilities as necessary.

Section 5. Regulations.

The Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Health may promulgate regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

Section 6. Reporting.

At the discretion of the Department of Health, the Department of Health shall share information with the general public.
regarding data, sampling and testing procedures under this act
and post the information on the publicly accessible Internet
website of the Department of Health.

Section 7. Effective date.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.