

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1893 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY STAATS, KAUFFMAN, RYAN, HAMM, JAMES, R. BROWN,  
GILLEN AND GROVE, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 23, 1956 (1955 P.L.1510, No.500),  
2 entitled "An act providing for the prevention and control of  
3 communicable and non-communicable diseases including venereal  
4 diseases, fixing responsibility for disease prevention and  
5 control, requiring reports of diseases, and authorizing  
6 treatment of venereal diseases, and providing for premarital  
7 and prenatal blood tests; amending, revising and  
8 consolidating the laws relating thereto; and repealing  
9 certain acts," further providing for confidentiality of  
10 reports and records.

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

13 Section 1. Section 15 of the act of April 23, 1956 (1955  
14 P.L.1510, No.500), known as the Disease Prevention and Control  
15 Law of 1955, amended November 3, 2020 (P.L.1093, No.112), is  
16 amended to read:

17 Section 15. [Confidentiality of Reports and Records] Reports  
18 and records.--

19 [(a) Except as provided under section 15.1, State and local  
20 health authorities may not disclose reports of diseases, any  
21 records maintained as a result of any action taken in  
22 consequence of such reports, or any other records maintained

1 pursuant to this act or any regulations, to any person who is  
2 not a member of the department or of a local board or department  
3 of health, except as follows:

4 (1) Where necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

5 (2) Where necessary to inform the public of the risk of a  
6 communicable disease.

7 (b) State and local health authorities may permit the use of  
8 data contained in disease reports and other records, maintained  
9 pursuant to this act, or any regulation, for research purposes,  
10 subject to strict supervision by the health authorities to  
11 insure that the use of the reports and records is limited to the  
12 specific research purposes.] Reports of diseases, any records  
13 maintained as a result of any action taken in consequence of  
14 such reports or any other records maintained under this act or  
15 any regulations shall be subject to the act of February 14, 2008  
16 (P.L.6, No.3), known as the Right-to-Know Law.

17 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.