

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 633 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY MASTRIANO, MENSCH, SCAVELLO AND ARGALL,
MAY 13, 2021

REFERRED TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, MAY 13, 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.--

18 (a) Except as provided under section 15.1, State and local
19 health authorities [may not] shall disclose reports of diseases,
20 any records maintained as a result of any action taken in
21 consequence of such reports[,] or any other records maintained
22 pursuant to this act or any regulations[, to any person who is

1 not a member of the department or of a local board or department
2 of health], except [as follows] where necessary to carry out the
3 purposes of:

4 (1) [Where necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.]
5 The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996
6 (Public Law 104-191, 110 Stat. 1936).

7 (2) [Where necessary to inform the public of the risk of a
8 communicable disease.] The act of February 14, 2008 (P.L.6,
9 No.3), known as the Right-to-Know Law.

10 (3) Any other applicable Federal or State law.

11 (b) State and local health authorities may permit the use of
12 data contained in disease reports and other records, maintained
13 pursuant to this act, or any regulation, for research purposes,
14 subject to strict supervision by the health authorities to
15 insure that the use of the reports and records is limited to the
16 specific research purposes.

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