

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 326 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY STAATS, HAMM, FINK, ZIMMERMAN, GROVE, KEEFER, ROWE, STEHR, SCHEUREN AND FLICK, MARCH 13, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, MARCH 13, 2023

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, is amended to read:

16 Section 15. [Confidentiality of] Reports and Records.--

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

1 of health, except as follows:

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

3 (2) Where necessary to inform the public of the risk of a
4 communicable disease.

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

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