

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 694  
2 INTRODUCED BY B. MERCER

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND  
5 HUMAN SERVICES TO DISCLOSE CERTAIN INFORMATION DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY."

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7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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9 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Duties of department during public health emergency.** (1) If the  
10 governor has declared a state of emergency pursuant to 10-3-303 that is considered a public health  
11 emergency, the department shall make a daily disclosure of health information in accordance with the  
12 confidentiality requirements of 50-16-603 on the department's website and any other means considered  
13 necessary to communicate to the public the total number of individuals:

- 14 (a) hospitalized in the state due to conditions, diagnoses, or other impacts to an individual's health
- 15 that have been identified by the governor as a basis for the public health emergency; and
- 16 (b) who have died as a result of conditions, diagnoses, or other impacts to an individual's health
- 17 that have been identified by the governor as a basis for the public health emergency.

18 (2) For each category identified in subsections (1)(a) and (1)(b), the department shall disclose:

- 19 (a) the number of individuals within the following age cohorts:
- 20 (i) 0 to 5;
- 21 (ii) 6 to 15;
- 22 (iii) 16 to 25;
- 23 (iv) 26 to 35;
- 24 (v) 36 to 45;
- 25 (vi) 46 to 55;
- 26 (vii) 56 to 65;
- 27 (viii) 66 to 75;
- 28 (ix) 76 to 85;

- 1           (x)     86 to 95; and
- 2           (xi)    96 and above;
- 3           (b)     the gender of individuals;
- 4           (c)     any period of hospitalization of the individuals related to the conditions, diagnoses, or other
- 5 impacts to an individual's health that have been identified by the governor as a basis for the public health
- 6 emergency;
- 7           (d)     the date of death, if applicable;
- 8           (e)     underlying conditions, if any, that may have contributed to the hospitalization or death of the
- 9 individuals; and
- 10          (f)     if not disclosed pursuant to subsection (2)(e), for individuals who have died during the time
- 11 period for which the department is disclosing the information required in this section, personal characteristics or
- 12 conditions of the individuals that may be causally connected to mortality or morbidity known to be associated
- 13 with the public health emergency.

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15           NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an  
 16 integral part of Title 50, chapter 1, part 2, and the provisions of Title 50, chapter 1, part 2, apply to [section 1].

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