



2019-2020 General Assembly

# SENATE BILL 704: COVID-19 Recovery Act , Sec. 4.17: Communicable Disease Information Law Enforcement

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<b>Committee:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	August 5, 2020
<b>Introduced by:</b>		<b>Prepared by:</b>	Jessica Boney Staff Attorney
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Sec. 4.17 of S.L. 2020-3		

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**OVERVIEW:** *Sec. 4.17 of S.L. 2020-3 creates exceptions for the release of confidential communicable disease health information by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) or a local health department to a law enforcement official in order to prevent or lessen a serious or imminent threat to the health or safety of a person or the public to the extent allowed under HIPPA, or to enforce the communicable disease and health laws of the State. This section became effective May 4, 2020.*

## **BILL ANALYSIS:**

Sec. 4.17(a) removes the reference to AIDS virus infection and makes various technical changes.

Sec. 4.17(a) creates exceptions for the release of confidential communicable disease health information by DHHS or a local health department to a law enforcement official in the following circumstances:

- To prevent or lessen a serious or imminent threat to the health or safety of a person or the public to the extent allowed under HIPPA.
- To enforce the communicable disease and health laws of the State.

The law enforcement official may not disclose the communicable disease health information further, except in limited circumstances.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This section became effective May 4, 2020.

Jeffrey Hudson  
Director



Legislative Analysis  
Division  
919-733-2578