

1-1 By: Guerra, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Schwertner) H.B. No. 3576
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 15, 2017;
 1-3 May 15, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on Health &
 1-4 Human Services; May 19, 2017, reported favorably by the following
 1-5 vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 19, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Schwertner	X			
1-8 Uresti	X			
1-9 Buckingham	X			
1-10 Burton	X			
1-11 Kolthorst	X			
1-12 Miles	X			
1-13 Perry			X	
1-14 Taylor of Collin	X			
1-15 Watson	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the investigation of, and release of information
 1-20 concerning, communicable disease, including the Zika virus and
 1-21 other high consequence communicable diseases.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Section 81.046(c), Health and Safety Code, as
 1-24 amended by Chapters 789 (H.B. 2646) and 1278 (S.B. 1574), Acts of
 1-25 the 84th Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, is reenacted and
 1-26 amended to read as follows:

1-27 (c) Medical or epidemiological information, including
 1-28 information linking a person who is exposed to a person with a
 1-29 communicable disease, may be released:

1-30 (1) for statistical purposes if released in a manner
 1-31 that prevents the identification of any person;

1-32 (2) with the consent of each person identified in the
 1-33 information;

1-34 (3) to medical personnel treating the individual,
 1-35 appropriate state agencies in this state or another state, a health
 1-36 authority or local health department in this state or another
 1-37 state, or federal, county, or district courts to comply with this
 1-38 chapter and related rules relating to the control and treatment of
 1-39 communicable diseases and health conditions or under another state
 1-40 or federal law that expressly authorizes the disclosure of this
 1-41 information;

1-42 (4) to appropriate federal agencies, such as the
 1-43 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [~~of the United States~~
 1-44 ~~Public Health Service~~], but, except as provided under Subsection
 1-45 (c-3), the information must be limited to the name, address, sex,
 1-46 race, and occupation of the patient, the date of disease onset, the
 1-47 probable source of infection, and other requested information
 1-48 relating to the case or suspected case of a communicable disease or
 1-49 health condition;

1-50 (5) to medical personnel to the extent necessary in a
 1-51 medical emergency to protect the health or life of the person
 1-52 identified in the information; [~~or~~]

1-53 (6) to a designated infection control officer;

1-54 (7) [~~(6)~~] to governmental entities that provide first
 1-55 responders who may respond to a situation involving a potential
 1-56 communicable disease of concern and need the information to
 1-57 properly respond to the situation; or

1-58 (8) [~~(7)~~] to a local health department or health
 1-59 authority for a designated monitoring period based on the potential
 1-60 risk for developing symptoms of a communicable disease of concern.

1-61 SECTION 2. Section 81.046, Health and Safety Code, is

2-1 amended by adding Subsection (c-3) to read as follows:

2-2 (c-3) The following medical or epidemiological information
2-3 relating to a person who has or is suspected of having a present or
2-4 potential health condition resulting from exposure to a high
2-5 consequence communicable disease, such as the Zika virus, may be
2-6 released to an appropriate federal agency:

2-7 (1) the name, address, sex, race, and occupation of
2-8 the person;

2-9 (2) the date of the onset of the health condition;

2-10 (3) the probable source of infection or exposure; and

2-11 (4) other requested information relating to the case
2-12 or suspected case of the infection.

2-13 SECTION 3. Sections 81.061(a) and (c), Health and Safety
2-14 Code, are amended to read as follows:

2-15 (a) The department shall investigate the causes and effects
2-16 of communicable disease and methods of prevention.

2-17 (c) The department may investigate the existence of
2-18 communicable disease in the state to determine the nature and
2-19 extent of the disease and potential effects on the health of
2-20 individuals and to formulate and evaluate the control measures used
2-21 to protect the public health. A person shall provide records and
2-22 other information to the department on request according to the
2-23 department's written instructions.

2-24 SECTION 4. To the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails
2-25 over another Act of the 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2017,
2-26 relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted
2-27 codes.

2-28 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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