

HOUSE BILL NO. 253

INTRODUCED BY B. MERCER

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

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

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

(a) hospitalized in the state due to conditions, diagnoses, or other impacts to an individual's health that have been identified by the governor as a basis for the public health emergency; and

(b) who have died as a result of conditions, diagnoses, or other impacts to an individual's health that have been identified by the governor as a basis for the public health emergency.

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

(a) the number of individuals within the following age cohorts:

(i) 0 to 5;

(ii) 6 to 15;

(iii) 16 to 25;

(iv) 26 to 35;

(v) 36 to 45;

(vi) 46 to 55;

(vii) 56 to 65;

(viii) 66 to 75;

(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.

14

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].

17

- END -