

STATE OF NEW YORK

11132

IN ASSEMBLY

November 6, 2020

Introduced by COMMITTEE ON RULES -- (at request of M. of A. Gottfried)
-- read once and referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to creating the health emergency response data system

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section
2 206-c to read as follows:

3 § 206-c. Health emergency response data system. 1. a. The health emer-
4 gency response data system, referred to in this section as "HERDS", is
5 hereby created in the department. The HERDS shall collect information
6 and statistical data, referred to in this section as "HERDS informa-
7 tion", relating to public health emergencies and health care services
8 related to public health emergencies, in order to assist the department,
9 other government entities, health care providers, and the public in
10 understanding and responding to public health emergencies.

11 b. Individually identifiable HERDS information shall be kept confiden-
12 tial. HERDS information disclosed under this section shall be aggregated
13 so it cannot be individually identifiable, but it shall contain suffi-
14 cient detail, so it refers to specific geographic areas and hospitals,
15 as defined in article twenty-eight of this chapter.

16 c. The commissioner shall make regulations implementing this section.
17 2. a. The HERDS shall collect HERDS information, including from
18 surveys submitted by hospitals and other health care providers.

19 b. The HERDS shall be operated by the department, including the
20 collecting and making available information, in conjunction with and to
21 improve the department's fulfillment of its responsibilities under arti-
22 cles twenty-one and forty-one of this chapter.

23 § 2. Paragraph b of subdivision 2 of section 206-c of the public
24 health law, as added by section one of this act, is amended to read as
25 follows:

26 b. HERDS shall make HERDS information available to government enti-
27 ties, health care providers, and the public, including posting on the
28 department's website, as soon and as close to real time as practicable

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 after it is collected but no later than seven days after it is received
2 by the department.

3 c. The HERDS shall be operated by the department, including the
4 collecting and making available information, in conjunction with and to
5 improve the department's fulfillment of its responsibilities under arti-
6 cles twenty-one and forty-one of this chapter.

7 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however,
8 section two of this act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it
9 shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the commissioner of
10 health shall make regulations and take other actions reasonably neces-
11 sary to implement each section of this act on its effective date.