69th Legislature 2025 Drafter: Milly Allen, HB0253.001.002

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 253		
2	INTRODUCED BY B. MERCER		
3			
4	A BILL FOR A	N ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND	
5	HUMAN SERV	ICES TO DISCLOSE CERTAIN INFORMATION DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY."	
6			
7	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:		
8			
9	NEW S	SECTION. Section 1. Duties of department during public health emergency. (1) If the	
10	governor has o	leclared a state of emergency pursuant to 10-3-303 that is considered a public health	
11	emergency, the	e department shall make, at minimum, a daily twice weekly disclosure of health information in	
12	accordance with the confidentiality requirements of 50-16-603 on the department's website and any other		
13	means considered 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 Except as provided in subsection (3), for each category identified in subsections (1)(a) and	
19	(1)(b), the department shall disclose:		
20	(a)	the number of individuals within the following age cohorts:	
21	(i)	0 to <u>5_4;</u>	
22	(ii)	6 to 15 5 to 17 ;	
23	(iii)	16 to 25 <u>18 to 34</u> ;	
24	(iv)	26 to 35 <u>35 to 49</u> ;	
25	(v)	36 to 45 50 to 64; and	
26	(vi)	46 to 55; 65 and older;	
27	(vii)	- 56 to 65;	
28	(viii)	 66 to 75;	



Amendment - 1st Reading-white - Requested by: Melody Cunningham - (H) Human Services - 2025

69th Legislature 2025 Drafter: Milly Allen, HB0253.001.002

1	(ix)	76 to 85;	
2	(x)	86 to 95; and	
3	(xi)	96 and above;	
4	(b)	the gender of individuals;	
5	(c)	any period of hospitalization of the individuals related to the conditions, diagnoses, or other	
6	impacts to an individual's health that have been identified by the governor as a basis for the public health		
7	emergency;		
8	(d)	the date of death, if applicable;	
9	(e)	underlying conditions, if any, that may have contributed to the hospitalization or death of the	
10	individuals; and		
11	(f)	if not disclosed pursuant to subsection (2)(e), for individuals who have died during the time	
12	period for which the department is disclosing the information required in this section, personal characteristics of		
13	conditions of the individuals that may be causally connected to mortality or morbidity known to be associated		
14	with the public health emergency.		
15	(3)	If disclosure of the information required by subsection (2) would compromise privacy, the	
16	department may alter how it reports the information, including age cohort groupings, or not disclose the		
17	information.		
18			
19	NEW S	SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an	
20	integral part of	Title 50, chapter 1 16, part 2 6, and the provisions of Title 50, chapter 1 16, part 2 6, apply to	
21	[section 1].		



22

- END -