

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 817

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 27, 2010

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 817.

This bill amends the “Health Care Facility-Associated Infection Reporting and Prevention Act,” P.L. 2007, C.196 (C.26:2H-12.39 et seq.) to allow for the transmission of data that identifies patients, thereby enabling the Department of Health and Senior Services to independently verify data submitted by hospitals.

A recent Government Accountability Office report evaluating state infection reporting programs found that systems which do not independently verify data pose a substantial risk of misleading the public, because some hospitals may provide more accurate and complete data than others.