

**SENATE, No. 2575**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**219th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED JUNE 15, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JOSEPH PENNACCHIO**

**District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**Senator MICHAEL L. TESTA, JR.**

**District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Removes limit in Emergency Health Powers Act on access to public and government records.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/28/2020)**

1 AN ACT concerning access to public and government records under  
2 the Emergency Health Powers Act, and repealing section 26 of  
3 P.L.2005, c.222.

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5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:

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8 1. Section 26 of P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-26) is repealed.

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10 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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15 Currently, under the Emergency Health Powers Act, N.J.S.A.  
16 26:13-1 et seq., any correspondence, records, reports and medical  
17 information made, maintained, received or filed pursuant to that act  
18 is not considered a public or government record under the law  
19 commonly referred to as the open public records act (opra).

20 This bill removes the opora exception regarding access to the  
21 correspondence, records, reports and medical information made,  
22 maintained, received or filed pursuant to the Emergency Health  
23 Powers Act. Under this bill, any item pertaining to that act that is  
24 accessible under opora may be obtained under current opora  
25 procedures.