

ASSEMBLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1959

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 19, 2022

The Assembly Women and Children Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1959.

This bill requires reporting of certain attempted and completed suicides by minors.

Under the bill, for the purpose of assembling data regarding suicide in minors, each hospital is to annually report to the New Jersey Poison Control Center of Rutgers, The State University, or to its successor agency, the number of attempted and completed suicides involving minors in which a minor uses a drug to attempt or complete suicide. A hospital is to also report, if available, additional information as may be required by the Department of Health, including but not limited to, the age, ethnicity, gender, and race of the minor as well as the drug used to attempt or complete suicide. The New Jersey Poison Control Center is to submit to the Governor and to the Legislature an annual report containing statistics based on data submitted to the center pursuant to the bill's provisions.

Under the bill, names and individual identification data collected pursuant to the bill's provisions are not to be disclosed unless required by law, and nothing in the bill is to be construed to require disclosure of any private or confidential health information in violation of State or federal privacy laws.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2022-2023 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.