By Senator Garcia

40-01299B-10 20101424 A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to epidemiological monitoring systems; amending s. 395.3025, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Health to collaborate with and disclose certain information to the United States Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention for specified purposes;

providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 395.3025, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

395.3025 Patient and personnel records; copies; examination.-

(5) The Department of Health may examine patient records of a licensed facility, whether held by the facility or the Agency for Health Care Administration, for the purpose of epidemiological investigations. The unauthorized release of information by agents of the department which would identify an individual patient is a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. The department may collaborate with, and disclose such information to, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as part of the epidemiological monitoring systems to which both the department and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention staff have access, as long as the systems meet federal standards for the protection of personal health information.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.