

17-104.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT" MEANS A WRITTEN AGREEMENT BETWEEN A PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY IN THE STATE AND A PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY OPERATED BY ANOTHER STATE TO ESTABLISH AND CARRY OUT A PLAN TO ASSIST EACH OTHER IN PROVIDING TEMPORARY TESTING SERVICES TO ALLEVIATE AN EMERGENCY AT ONE OF THE LABORATORIES.

(3) "PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY" MEANS A LABORATORY OPERATED BY A STATE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE:

(I) CONSULTING AND REGULATORY SUPPORT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, EPIDEMIOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND REGULATORY PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS; AND

(II) TESTS OR EXAMINATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH:

1. THE DIAGNOSIS AND CONTROL OF HUMAN DISEASES;

2. THE ASSESSMENT OF HUMAN HEALTH, NUTRITIONAL, OR MEDICAL CONDITIONS; OR

3. THE ENVIRONMENT.

(B) THIS SECTION SHALL BE LIBERALLY CONSTRUED TO PROMOTE ITS PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AID DURING AN EMERGENCY AT A PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY.

(C) (1) A PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY IN THE STATE MAY ENTER INTO OR RENEW A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH A PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY OPERATED BY ANOTHER STATE.

(2) A PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY OPERATED BY ANOTHER STATE THAT ENTERS INTO A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION OF THE STATUTORY AUTHORITY REQUIRED FOR THAT STATE TO MEET THE RESPONSIBILITIES SET FORTH IN THE AGREEMENT.