

**FACT SHEET**  
Assembly Bill 995 (Assembly Member Block):  
Tissue Bank Licensing

**Summary:**

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is responsible for the oversight of licensing standards for tissue banks through their department of Laboratory Field Services (LFS). CDPH was initially authorized to promulgate regulations for licensing standards for California's tissue banks through AB 2209, Chapter 801, and Statutes of 1991.

**Problem:**

The LFS has been unable to develop standards for the tissue banks because rapid changes to the tissue banking industry lead to complications in instituting suitable regulations.

**Solution:**

Assembly Bill 995 seeks to adopt the American Association of Tissue Bank (AATB) standards as an alternative to CDPH regulations. Adherence to AATB standards would insure that facilities licensed in California meet uniform standards and are subject to the same enforcement procedures and on-site inspections.

By instituting the AATB standards, the collection, processing, storage, and distribution of human tissue would be subject to uniform standards and enforcement.

**For More Information:**

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