ENROLLED BILL

-- Health and Government Operations/Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs --

Introduced by Delegates Taylor, Anderson, Benson, Burns, Cane, Conroy,
Cryor, Feldman, Gilleland, Gutierrez, Harrison, Haynes, Heller,
Howard, Jones, Kaiser, Kelley, King, Kirk, Lawton, Lee, Madaleno,
Mandel, Marriott, Moe, Montgomery, Murray, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks,
Paige, Parker, Patterson, Petzold, Proctor, Pugh, Ramirez, Rosenberg,
Shewell, Stern, F. Turner, V. Turner, and Vaughn, Vaughn, and Hubbard

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

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Proofreader.

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Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
_____ day of ____________ at ____________________ o'clock, _____M.

_____________________________________________
Speaker.

CHAPTER_______

1 AN ACT concerning

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene - Prenatal Dietary Folic Acid
Supplement Distribution Program

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to
establish a program to distribute prenatal multivitamin appropriate vitamins
and mineral dietary supplements a folic acid supplement to women of a certain
age and income level; providing for the purpose of the program; requiring the
program to provide a certain supplements supplement and certain counseling
and information to certain individuals; requiring local health departments to
distribute certain supplements and to provide certain counseling and
information; requiring the program to be funded in the State budget, subject to
the availability of funding; authorizing the Department to use money
appropriated for a certain federal program and from any other lawful source to
fund the program; and generally relating to a prenatal dietary folic acid
supplement distribution program in the Department of Health and Mental
Hygiene.

5 BY adding to
6 Article - Health - General
7 Section 13-2301 through 13-2303, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle
8 "Subtitle 23. Prenatal Dietary Folic Acid Supplement Distribution
9 Program"
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 Article - Health - General

15 SUBTITLE 23. PRENATAL DIETARY FOLIC ACID SUPPLEMENT DISTRIBUTION
16 PROGRAM.

17 13-2301.

18 IN THIS SUBTITLE, "WOMEN OF CHILDBEARING AGE" MEANS WOMEN BETWEEN
19 THE AGES OF 15 AND 45 YEARS OLD WHO QUALIFY FOR THE FEDERAL WOMEN,
20 INFANTS, AND CHILDREN FOOD PROGRAM HAVE FAMILY INCOMES AT OR BELOW
21 185% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL.

22 13-2302.

23 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A PROGRAM TO DISTRIBUTE
24 PRENATAL MULTIVITAMIN AND MINERAL DIETARY
25 SUPPLEMENTS A FOLIC ACID SUPPLEMENT TO WOMEN OF CHILDBEARING AGE.

26 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF CASES
27 OF NEURAL TUBE DEFECTS AND OTHER BIRTH DEFECTS IN CHILDREN AND TO
28 REDUCE THE NUMBER OF INFANTS BORN WITH LOW BIRTH WEIGHT IN THE STATE.

29 (C) THE PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING TO WOMEN OF
30 CHILDBEARING AGE AS APPROPRIATE, BASED ON AN ASSESSMENT OF THEIR
31 INDIVIDUAL NEED:

32 (1) PRENATAL MULTIVITAMIN AND MINERAL DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS THAT CONTAIN AN APPROPRIATE FOLIC ACID SUPPLEMENT THAT CONTAINS THE RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF FOLIC ACID FOR WOMEN OF CHILDBEARING AGE;

33 (2) COUNSELING AND WRITTEN INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROPER USE OF THE SUPPLEMENTS SUPPLEMENT; AND
(3) ANY OTHER HEALTH INFORMATION REGARDING PRENATAL CARE THAT THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(D) LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE PRENATAL DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS AND PROVIDE THE COUNSELING AND WRITTEN INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.

13-2303.

(A) SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING, THE PROGRAM SHALL BE FUNDED AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

(B) THE DEPARTMENT MAY USE MONEY APPROPRIATED FOR THE FEDERAL WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN FOOD PROGRAM AND FROM ANY OTHER LAWFUL SOURCE TO FUND THE PROGRAM.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2006.