

HOUSE BILL 901

J1, M3

11r2371

By: **Delegate Kipke**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2011

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Departments of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Environment – Fluoride**
3 **Levels in Drinking Water – Study**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the
5 Department of the Environment jointly to conduct a study, in consultation with
6 certain county boards of health, regarding fluoridation levels in public drinking
7 water in the State and to report their findings and analysis to the General
8 Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally relating to a study of the
9 fluoride levels in drinking water by the Departments of Health and Mental
10 Hygiene and the Environment.

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That:

13 (a) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Department of
14 the Environment jointly shall conduct a study, in consultation with county boards of
15 health throughout the State, for purposes of analyzing the proposed recommendation
16 of the federal Department of Health and Human Services to decrease the level of
17 fluoride in public drinking water to 0.7 milligrams of fluoride per liter of water.

18 (b) The study conducted under subsection (a) of this section shall include:

19 (1) an analysis of the existing levels of fluoride in:

20 (i) the public water systems of public schools throughout the
21 State;

22 (ii) the public water systems of large municipalities and other
23 local governments throughout the State; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (iii) water that is bottled and sold in the State by a person
2 licensed by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene under § 21-305 of the
3 Health – General Article;

4 (2) a discussion of the possible adverse health outcomes, if any, of
5 ingesting water with levels of fluoride higher than those recommended under the
6 federal Safe Drinking Water Act, including a discussion of any cases of adverse
7 outcomes reported in the State; and

8 (3) an analysis of positive and adverse impacts on public health linked
9 to the fluoridation of public drinking water, using data collected before and after
10 fluoridation became standard.

11 (c) On or before September 30, 2012, the Department of Health and Mental
12 Hygiene and the Department of the Environment jointly shall report their findings
13 and analysis to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
14 Government Article.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
16 October 1, 2011.