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By: **Delegates Feldman, Barkley, Bobo, Bronrott, Dumais, Goldwater,  
Gutierrez, Kaiser, King, Lee, Madaleno, Mandel, Montgomery, Parker,  
Ross, Stern, and Vaughn**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2004

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Hospitals - Maternity Patients - Providing Information about Postpartum**  
3 **Depression**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring each hospital that provides certain services to provide  
5 certain information about postpartum depression to maternity patients before a  
6 patient's discharge; and generally relating to requiring hospitals to provide  
7 information about postpartum depression to maternity patients.

8 BY adding to  
9 Article - Health - General  
10 Section 19-308.7  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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

15 **Article - Health - General**

16 19-308.7.

17 EACH HOSPITAL THAT PROVIDES MATERNITY AND OBSTETRICAL SERVICES  
18 SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN INFORMATION ABOUT POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION TO A  
19 MATERNITY PATIENT BEFORE THE PATIENT'S DISCHARGE.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
21 October 1, 2004.