
By: **Delegates Feldman, Barkley, Bobo, Bronrott, Dumais, Goldwater, Gutierrez, Kaiser, King, Lee, Madaleno, Mandel, Montgomery, Parker, Ross, Stern, and Vaughn Vaughn, Hurson, Hammen, Benson, Boteler, Boutin, Bromwell, Costa, Donoghue, Elliott, Hubbard, Kach, McDonough, Morhaim, Murray, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, Pendergrass, Rosenberg, Rudolph, Smigiel, V. Turner, and Weldon**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2004
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 16, 2004

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Hospitals and Health Care Facilities - Maternity Patients - Providing**
3 **Information about Postpartum Depression**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring each hospital or health care facility that provides
5 certain services to provide certain information about postpartum depression to
6 maternity patients before a patient's discharge; specifying that failure to meet
7 the requirements of this Act may not be construed to create a private right of
8 action; and generally relating to requiring hospitals and health care facilities to
9 provide information about postpartum depression to maternity patients.

10 BY adding to
11 Article - Health - General
12 Section 19-308.7
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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

1

Article - Health - General

2 19-308.7.

3 (A) EACH HOSPITAL OR HEALTH CARE FACILITY THAT PROVIDES MATERNITY
4 AND OBSTETRICAL SERVICES SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN INFORMATION ABOUT
5 POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION TO A MATERNITY PATIENT BEFORE THE PATIENT'S
6 DISCHARGE.

7 (B) FAILURE TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE
8 CONSTRUED TO CREATE A PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.

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