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By: **Delegate Menes**  
Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2004  
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2                                   **Public Health - Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Prevention - Public Awareness**  
3                                   **Campaign**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, in  
5 collaboration with other State agencies, to establish and promote a certain  
6 public awareness campaign relating to the prevention of Fetal Alcohol  
7 Syndrome; providing for the components of the campaign; authorizing the  
8 Secretary to use certain resources to carry out the provisions of this Act; and  
9 generally relating to a public awareness campaign to prevent Fetal Alcohol  
10 Syndrome.

11 BY adding to  
12 Article - Health - General  
13 Section 18-309  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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

18                                   **Article - Health - General**

19 18-309.

20 (A) (1) THE SECRETARY, IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER STATE  
21 AGENCIES, SHALL ESTABLISH AND PROMOTE A STATEWIDE PUBLIC INFORMATION,  
22 AWARENESS, AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ON FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME AND  
23 OTHER EFFECTS OF PRENATAL ALCOHOL EXPOSURE.

24 (2) THE CAMPAIGN SHALL:

25 (I) REACH OUT TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND SPECIFIC  
26 POPULATIONS DETERMINED TO BE AT HIGH RISK FOR CONTRACTING FETAL  
27 ALCOHOL SYNDROME;

1 (II) DISSEMINATE THE INFORMATION ABOUT FETAL ALCOHOL  
2 SYNDROME THROUGH WRITTEN MATERIALS, TELEVISION, RADIO, POSTERS, OR ANY  
3 OTHER MEDIUM THE SECRETARY CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE AND EFFECTIVE FOR  
4 CONVEYING THE INFORMATION;

5 (III) DISTRIBUTE INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS FREE OF CHARGE TO  
6 PRENATAL CLINICS AND TO ESTABLISHMENTS THAT SERVE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES;  
7 AND

8 (IV) INCLUDE ANY OTHER MATTER THAT THE SECRETARY  
9 CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE.

10 (B) TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION, THE SECRETARY:

11 (1) ON REQUEST, SHALL RECEIVE AID OR INFORMATION FROM ANY  
12 AGENCY OF THIS STATE, OR FROM A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION;

13 (2) MAY REQUEST THE SERVICES OF INTERESTED ADVOCACY GROUPS;  
14 AND

15 (3) MAY CONTRACT FOR ANY NECESSARY SERVICES.

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