

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:

Proofreader.

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

2 **Department of Health and Mental Hygiene - ~~Prenatal Dietary~~ Folic Acid**
3 **Supplement Distribution Program**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to
5 establish a program to distribute ~~prenatal multivitamin~~ appropriate vitamins
6 ~~and mineral dietary supplements~~ a folic acid supplement to women of a certain
7 age and income level; providing for the purpose of the program; requiring the
8 program to provide a certain ~~supplements~~ supplement and certain counseling
9 and information to certain individuals; ~~requiring local health departments to~~
10 ~~distribute certain supplements and to provide certain counseling and~~
11 ~~information~~; requiring the program to be funded in the State budget, subject to
12 the availability of funding; ~~authorizing the Department to use money~~

1 appropriated for a certain federal program and from any other lawful source to
 2 fund the program; and generally relating to a prenatal dietary *folic acid*
 3 supplement distribution program in the Department of Health and Mental
 4 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 ANY APPROPRIATE VITAMIN 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 APPROPRIATE VITAMIN AND MINERAL~~
 33 ~~DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS THAT CONTAIN~~ AN APPROPRIATE *FOLIC ACID SUPPLEMENT*
 34 THAT CONTAINS THE RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF FOLIC ACID FOR WOMEN OF
 35 CHILDBEARING AGE;

36 (2) COUNSELING AND WRITTEN INFORMATION REGARDING THE
 37 PROPER USE OF THE ~~SUPPLEMENTS~~ SUPPLEMENT; AND

1 (3) ANY OTHER HEALTH INFORMATION REGARDING PRENATAL CARE
2 THAT THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF
3 THIS SUBTITLE.

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

7 13-2303.

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

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

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