

HOUSE BILL 1133

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6lr1205

By: **Delegates Taveras, Acevero, Hill, Kaufman, Lehman, Odom, Ruff, and Terrasa**
Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2026
Assigned to: Health

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Health – Drug Manufacturer–Funded Disease Awareness Campaigns –**
3 **Registration and Required Disclosure**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring drug manufacturers and certain patient advocacy
5 organizations to register with the Maryland Department of Health before conducting
6 a disease awareness campaign in the State; requiring that materials produced and
7 distributed as part of a disease awareness campaign include a certain disclosure
8 under certain circumstances; and generally relating to disease awareness campaigns
9 in the State.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Health – General
12 Section 24–2801 and 24–2802 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 28. Disease
13 Awareness Campaigns”
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Health – General**

19 **SUBTITLE 28. DISEASE AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS.**

20 **24–2801.**

21 **(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
22 **INDICATED.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) “DISEASE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN” MEANS A PUBLIC HEALTH EFFORT**
2 **DESIGNED TO INFORM A TARGET AUDIENCE ABOUT A SPECIFIC MEDICAL CONDITION**
3 **AND THAT MAY INCLUDE INFORMATION RELATED TO:**

4 **(1) RISK FACTORS;**

5 **(2) SYMPTOMS;**

6 **(3) PREVENTION; AND**

7 **(4) TREATMENT OPTIONS.**

8 **(C) “DRUG MANUFACTURER” MEANS AN ENTITY THAT:**

9 **(1) ENGAGES IN THE MANUFACTURE OF A PRESCRIPTION DRUG OR**
10 **DEVICE; OR**

11 **(2) ENTERS INTO A LEASE WITH ANOTHER MANUFACTURER TO**
12 **MARKET AND DISTRIBUTE A PRESCRIPTION DRUG OR DEVICE UNDER THE ENTITY’S**
13 **OWN NAME.**

14 **(D) “PATIENT ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION” MEANS AN ORGANIZATION THAT:**

15 **(1) PROVIDES EDUCATION, ADVOCACY, AND SUPPORT TO A PATIENT**
16 **OR THE CAREGIVER OF A PATIENT;**

17 **(2) IS CONCERNED WITH A MEDICAL CONDITION DIAGNOSED BY A**
18 **LICENSED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER; OR**

19 **(3) HAS A MISSION THAT SEEKS TO HELP VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS**
20 **OR THE FAMILIES OF INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED BY A MEDICAL CONDITION AND TAKES**
21 **ACTION CONSISTENT WITH THE MISSION.**

22 **24–2802.**

23 **(A) (1) WITH RESPECT TO A PATIENT ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION, THIS**
24 **SUBSECTION APPLIES ONLY TO A PATIENT ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION THAT**
25 **RECEIVES FUNDING FROM A DRUG MANUFACTURER THAT IS DEVELOPING,**
26 **MANUFACTURING, OR MARKETING A DRUG OR DEVICE FOR THE MEDICAL**
27 **CONDITION THAT IS THE FOCUS OF THE DISEASE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.**

28 **(2) BEFORE CONDUCTING A DISEASE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN IN THE**
29 **STATE, A DRUG MANUFACTURER OR PATIENT ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION SHALL:**

1 **(I) REGISTER WITH THE DEPARTMENT;**

2 **(II) DISCLOSE TO THE DEPARTMENT WHETHER THE DRUG**
3 **MANUFACTURER OR THE DRUG MANUFACTURER FROM WHICH THE PATIENT**
4 **ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION RECEIVES FUNDING IS DEVELOPING, MANUFACTURING,**
5 **OR MARKETING A DRUG OR DEVICE FOR THE MEDICAL CONDITION THAT IS THE**
6 **FOCUS OF THE DISEASE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN; AND**

7 **(III) SPECIFY THE DRUG OR DEVICE THAT THE DRUG**
8 **MANUFACTURER IS DEVELOPING, MANUFACTURING, OR MARKETING.**

9 **(B) IF A DRUG MANUFACTURER OR PATIENT ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION**
10 **DISCLOSES UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(2)(II) OF THIS SECTION THAT THE FOCUS OF**
11 **THE DISEASE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN IS A DRUG OR DEVICE THAT IS BEING**
12 **MARKETED, MATERIALS PRODUCED AND DISTRIBUTED AS PART OF THE DISEASE**
13 **AWARENESS CAMPAIGN SHALL INCLUDE A STATEMENT DISCLOSING THE DRUG OR**
14 **DEVICE THAT IS BEING MARKETED.**

15 **(C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**
16 **SUBTITLE.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2026.