

HOUSE BILL 836

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By: **Delegates Montgomery, Bobo, Bronrott, Elmore, Glassman, Hubbard, Kaiser, N. King, Kramer, Lawton, Lee, Manno, Pendergrass, Ramirez, Riley, Rudolph, Shewell, F. Turner, and Waldstreicher**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2007

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Health – Lyme Disease – Public Awareness Campaign**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, in
4 collaboration with other State agencies, to establish and promote a certain
5 public awareness campaign related to the prevention of Lyme disease and other
6 tick-borne illnesses; providing for the components of the campaign; authorizing
7 the Secretary to use certain resources to carry out the provisions of this Act; and
8 generally relating to a public awareness campaign for Lyme disease.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Health – General

11 Section 18–405

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Health – General**

17 **18–405.**

18 **(A) (1) THE SECRETARY, IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER STATE**
19 **AGENCIES, SHALL ESTABLISH AND PROMOTE A STATEWIDE PUBLIC**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 INFORMATION, AWARENESS, AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ON LYME DISEASE AND
2 ASSOCIATED TICK-BORNE ILLNESSES.

3 (2) THE CAMPAIGN SHALL:

4 (I) REACH OUT TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND SPECIFIC
5 POPULATIONS DETERMINED TO BE AT HIGH RISK FOR CONTRACTING LYME
6 DISEASE AND ASSOCIATED TICK-BORNE ILLNESSES;

7 (II) DISSEMINATE THE INFORMATION ABOUT LYME
8 DISEASE THROUGH WRITTEN MATERIALS, TELEVISION, RADIO, POSTERS, OR
9 ANY OTHER MEDIUM THE SECRETARY CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE AND
10 EFFECTIVE FOR CONVEYING THE INFORMATION;

11 (III) DISTRIBUTE INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS FREE OF
12 CHARGE TO HEALTH CLINICS, SCHOOLS, THE FOREST AND PARK SERVICE, AND
13 TO ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION THAT MAY SERVE INDIVIDUALS THAT HAVE A
14 HIGH RISK OF CONTACT WITH DEER AND OTHER TYPES OF TICKS;

15 (IV) DEVELOP AND DISSEMINATE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS
16 TO HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS ABOUT LYME DISEASE INCLUDING THE LATEST
17 CONSENSUS GUIDELINES FOR DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF LYME DISEASE;
18 AND

19 (V) INCLUDE ANY OTHER MATTER THAT THE SECRETARY
20 CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE.

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

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

24 (2) MAY REQUEST THE SERVICES OF INTERESTED ADVOCACY
25 GROUPS; AND

26 (3) MAY CONTRACT FOR ANY NECESSARY SERVICES.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 October 1, 2007.