

CHAPTER 174

AN ACT concerning health warnings about mercury contamination and supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

C.26:2-179 Consumer's mercury alert notice, posting distribution.

1. The Department of Health and Senior Services, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection, shall prepare a consumer's mercury alert notice for posting in all patient areas of professional medical offices that provide gynecological, obstetrical or pediatric care and in the patient or client areas of all maternal and child health and nutrition programs. The notice shall explain the danger to women who expect to become pregnant, women who are pregnant or breast feeding their children, and young children, of eating mercury contaminated fish. The notice shall summarize the State's and the federal government's most current mercury health advisories concerning fish consumption and shall contain such other information as the department deems appropriate. The notice also shall list any telephone number that may be established for State residents to call for further information about the health advisories.

The department shall distribute the notice, at no charge, to all professional medical offices that provide gynecological, obstetrical or pediatric care and to all publicly funded maternal and child health and nutrition programs in the State. The department shall update the notice as necessary, and shall make additional copies of the notice available to health care providers upon request.

2. This act shall take effect 60 days after enactment.

Approved September 10, 2003.