

Title 26.
Chapter 2.
Part FF. Mercury
Health Advisories
and Consumption of
Fish
§1 - C.26:2-179
§2 - Note

P.L. 2003, CHAPTER 174, *approved September 10, 2003*
Senate, No. 1202 (*Second Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning health warnings about mercury contamination and
2 supplementing ²[Titles 26 and 13] Title 26² of the Revised
3 Statutes.

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

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8 1. The Department of Health and Senior Services, in consultation
9 with the Department of Environmental Protection, shall prepare a
10 consumer's mercury alert notice for posting in all patient areas of
11 professional medical offices that provide gynecological, obstetrical or
12 pediatric care and in the patient or client areas of all maternal and child
13 health and nutrition programs. The notice shall explain the danger to
14 women who expect to become pregnant, women who are pregnant or
15 breast feeding their children, and young children, of eating mercury
16 contaminated fish. The notice shall summarize the State's and the
17 federal government's most current mercury health advisories
18 concerning fish consumption and shall contain such other information
19 as the department deems appropriate. The notice also shall list ²[the]
20 any² telephone number ²that may be² established ²[pursuant to section
21 3 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
22 that] for² State residents ²[may] to² call for further information about
23 the health advisories.

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

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31 ²[2. a. The Department of Environmental Protection, in
32 consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services, shall
33 prepare a consumer's guide to mercury and other health advisories, as
34 the department deems appropriate, for the consumption of ¹those

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Senate SHH committee amendments adopted September 26, 2002.

² Assembly AAN committee amendments adopted June 5, 2003.

1 species of marine, estuarine and¹ fresh water fish¹, as the department
2 deems appropriate.¹ and ¹ **[distribute sufficient] make**¹ copies of the
3 guide¹ available¹, at no charge, to all public and private entities
4 designated to issue fishing licenses. The department shall require that
5 ¹ **[a copy of the guide be distributed to]**¹ all applicants for a fishing
6 license ¹ **be provided with a copy of the guide or advised how to obtain**
7 **a copy of the guide, at no charge.**¹ at the time the license is issued.

8 The department shall update the guide as necessary, and shall make
9 copies of the guide available to other members of the public upon
10 request.

11 The guide also shall list the telephone number established pursuant
12 to section 3 of P.L. , c. (C.)(pending before the Legislature
13 as this bill) that State residents may call for further information about
14 the health advisories.

15 b. The Department of Environmental Protection shall include^{1,1} on
16 each fishing license issued in the State after the effective date of this
17 act, the telephone number established pursuant to section 3 of P.L. ,

18 c. (C.)(pending before the Legislature as this bill) that licensees
19 may call for further information about the health advisories.]²

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21 ²**[3. The Department of Environmental Protection, in consultation**
22 **with the Department of Health and Senior Services, shall establish and**
23 **maintain a telephone service to provide information to residents of the**
24 **State about mercury health advisories for the consumption of fresh**
25 **water fish.]**²

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27 ²**[4.]** 2.² This act shall take effect 60 days after enactment.

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32 Provides for notification to pregnant women about mercury health
33 advisories in consumption of fish.