



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 5445

LCO No. 1722

01722_____ENV

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING WARNINGS REGARDING MERCURY IN FISH AND SHELLFISH.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than October 1,
2 2006, the Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall develop a
3 consumer notice about mercury in fish and shellfish, which shall be
4 made available to the public and posted on the Department of
5 Environmental Protection's web site on the Internet. Such consumer
6 notice shall contain (1) information about the nutritional value of fish
7 and shellfish, (2) a warning about the harmful effects of mercury in
8 pregnant and nursing women, women who may become pregnant and
9 young children, (3) advice about the types of fish and shellfish that
10 pregnant and nursing women, women who may become pregnant and
11 young children should avoid, and (4) toll-free telephone numbers and
12 Internet web site addresses that consumers may access for additional
13 information about the risks of mercury in fish and shellfish, including,
14 but not limited to: The federal Food and Drug Administration's Food
15 Information Hotline, the federal Food and Drug Administration's Food
16 Safety web site, the federal Environmental Protection Agency's Fish

17 Advisory web site and the Department of Environmental Protection's
18 web site.

19 (b) No grocery or food store, as defined in section 22-38b of the
20 general statutes, shall sell fish or shellfish to consumers in this state,
21 unless the owner or operator of the store has posted the consumer
22 notice developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section in close
23 proximity to the fish or shellfish being sold.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To protect consumers by warning of the presence of mercury in certain fish and shellfish.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]