

The State of Maryland



From the Governor of the State of Maryland, to
TITLE: Steroid Awareness Week
DATE: NOVEMBER 27 – DECEMBER 2, 2006

WHEREAS, anabolic steroid use is increasing across the nation amongst our children. The National Institute on Drug Abuse has reported that over one million children between 6th and 12th grades have admitted to using anabolic steroids with the intent to improve athletic performance, physical appearance and self-image; and according to a study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control, anabolic steroid use among teenage athletes has more than doubled over the last decade; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that the use of anabolic steroids and other performance enhancing drugs has profound harmful effects on the physical and mental health of teenagers; and the documented health risks of anabolic steroid use and abuse include, among others, the increased chance of suffering a heart attack or stroke; of developing liver and other cancers; and of triggering mood and hormonal imbalances; and

WHEREAS, the National Coalition for the Advancement of Drug-Free Athletics, Inc. (NCADFA) along with their national spokesperson, Baltimore Ravens' All-Pro Linebacker & Super Bowl XXXV MVP, Ray Lewis, have taken a leadership role and pledged their efforts to encourage teenage athletes across the country to choose not to use performance enhancing drugs of any kind; and

WHEREAS, the NCADFA's Choose NOT to Use™ Education and Awareness Campaign, serves as a proactive tool that empowers and enables teenage athletes to make better choices when it comes their health and athletic careers, and also serves to combat steroid use before it becomes a public health issue.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROBERT L. EHRlich, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim November 27 through December 2, 2006 as STEROID AWARENESS WEEK in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 20th day of November
Two Thousand and six


Governor


Lt. Governor



