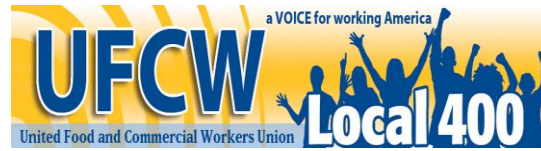




Maryland Developmental  
Disabilities Coalition



## **LORRAINE SHEEHAN ALCOHOL TAX COALITION TO JOIN SECRETARY SHARFSTEIN TO ANNOUNCE HOW ALCOHOL TAX MONEY WILL BE USED IN FY 2013 BUDGET**

On Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am in Annapolis, the Lorraine Sheehan Alcohol Tax Coalition will announce how the 2011 alcohol tax increase is being used to fund critical health care and community services in the FY 2013 Budget. Attached is a document from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene outlining how the money will be spent. The event will be at the MedChi Office, 224 Main Street. The Coalition will be joined at the event by Health Secretary Dr. Josh Sharfstein.

The Lorraine Sheehan Coalition Commends Governor Martin O'Malley for keeping his commitment to make sure that the money raised by the newly enacted alcohol tax increase will be used to fund critical health care and community service needs. The Coalition is pleased that this is in addition to fact that the alcohol tax increase is already saving lives by reducing underage drinking and alcohol abuse. See Attached Testimony by Professor David Jernigan of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

All the members of the Coalition and the O'Malley Administration recognize that in these very difficult economic times, the FY 2013 budget is far from perfect and more funding is required in important programs. With the alcohol tax increase, however, Maryland has been able to make take important steps to protect the health and well-being of many thousands of Marylanders. Other states can learn from our example

We strongly urge the Maryland General Assembly to approve the uses of the alcohol tax revenues proposed by the O'Malley/Brown Administration.

### **For More Information contact:**

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