

March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Testimony of Laura Hale American Heart Association Favorable W/Amendment HB 841 Environment - Plastic Bottle Waste Reduction - Water Bottle Filling Stations and Reporting

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Honorable Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee,

Thank you for your time and consideration. The American Heart Association extends its support with one amendment to HB 841 Environment - Plastic Bottle Waste Reduction - Water Bottle Filling Stations and Reporting. My name is Laura Hale and I am the Director of Government Relations for the American Heart Association.

We strongly support increasing water bottle filling stations. Having these more readily available can incentive and increase drink of water rather than unhealthy alternatives. Making drinking water an easy part of your day makes a huge difference in long term healthy.

The Heart Association asks that in addition to new construction, that also major renovations are included in the requirement for water bottle filling station.

The American Heart Association urges a favorable report with amendment on HB 841