

**Committee:** EEE  
**Testimony on:** SB-SB0096 – Environment – Water Bottle Filling Stations – Requirement  
**Submitting:** Rhonda Kranz  
**Position:** Favorable  
**Hearing Date:** February 11, 2025

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the EEE Committee. My name is Rhonda Kranz, and I strongly support SB00096: Environment – Water Bottle Filling Stations – Requirement, which mandates the installation of water bottle filling stations in new construction and certain renovations across Maryland. This bill will have a wide range of positive impacts in Maryland in one low cost opportunity.

The positive impacts of this bill would include reduction of plastic that ends up in our waterways, neighborhoods, and even in our children's blood streams. Plastic production is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and as MD moves towards it's climate goals this should be a consideration. It would provide safe drinking water in a region that has frequent problems with water quality, whether it be lead in pipes, or algae in household water supply as happened twice in my neighborhood last year. These are only a few of the benefits we would see from this bill.

Reducing the use of single use plastic bottles has been a goal in MD and the region for 30 years. This bill provides a good step forward in meeting our need to minimize plastic and all it's dangerous impacts, and will provide a simple, no cost way for all our communities to acquire healthy and environmentally safe drinking water.

For these and many other reasons I urge you to pass SB00096.