

HOUSE BILL 1237

N1

4lr2323

By: **Delegates Healey, Bobo, Carr, Frush, Otto, and A. Washington**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2014

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Drinking Fountains – Use at State and Local Facilities and Facilities**
3 **Constructed Using State Funds**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring each unit of State government and each county and
5 municipal corporation to make good-faith efforts to achieve a certain goal
6 regarding the provision of publicly accessible drinking fountains at certain
7 facilities; requiring a person using any State funds to construct a commercial or
8 public facility to provide publicly accessible drinking fountains in the facility;
9 stating the findings of the General Assembly; providing for the application of
10 this Act; and generally relating to the use and placement of public drinking
11 fountains.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Real Property

14 Section 14–133

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Real Property**

20 **14–133.**

21 **(A) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC**
22 **DRINKING FOUNTAINS:**

23 **(1) PROVIDES THE PUBLIC WITH CLEAN WATER;**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(2) PROVIDES A HEALTHIER ALTERNATIVE TO SUGARED**
2 **BEVERAGES; AND**

3 **(3) POTENTIALLY REDUCES THE USE OF DISPOSABLE PLASTIC**
4 **WATER BOTTLES.**

5 **(B) EACH UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT AND EACH COUNTY AND**
6 **MUNICIPAL CORPORATION SHALL MAKE GOOD-FAITH EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A**
7 **GOAL OF ENSURING THAT AT LEAST 75% OF FACILITIES OWNED BY THE STATE,**
8 **A COUNTY, OR A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION HAVE PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE**
9 **DRINKING FOUNTAINS.**

10 **(C) A PERSON THAT USES ANY STATE FUNDS TO CONSTRUCT A**
11 **COMMERCIAL OR PUBLIC FACILITY SHALL INCLUDE PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE**
12 **DRINKING FOUNTAINS IN THE FACILITY.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be
14 construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have
15 any effect on or application to any facility for which a construction permit was issued
16 before the effective date of this Act.

17 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2014.