

Chapter 547

(House Bill 277)

AN ACT concerning

Environment – Water Bottle Filling Stations – Requirement

FOR the purpose of requiring that a water bottle filling station be installed in certain new construction or as part of certain renovations beginning on a certain date, subject to certain exceptions; requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act; and generally relating to water bottle filling stations.

BY adding to

Article – Environment

Section 9–2701 through 9–2703 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 27. Water Bottle Filling Stations”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2014 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

Article – Environment**SUBTITLE 27. WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATIONS.****9–2701.****IN THIS SUBTITLE:**

(1) “WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATION” MEANS A PLUMBING FIXTURE CONNECTED TO THE POTABLE WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM AND SANITARY DRAINAGE SYSTEM THAT IS DESIGNED AND INTENDED FOR FILLING PERSONAL USE WATER BOTTLES OR CONTAINERS AT LEAST 10 INCHES IN HEIGHT; AND

(2) “WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATION” INCLUDES:

(I) A STATION THAT IS SEPARATE FROM OR INTEGRAL TO A DRINKING FOUNTAIN; AND

(II) ~~A~~ FOR AN INTERIOR LOCATION OF A BUILDING, A STATION THAT INCORPORATES A WATER FILTER AND COOLING SYSTEM FOR CHILLING THE WATER.

9-2702.

(A) ~~BEGINNING~~ EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2025, A AT LEAST ONE WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATION OR A COMBINED WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATION AND DRINKING FOUNTAIN SHALL:

(1) BE INSTALLED IN ALL NEW CONSTRUCTION ~~FOR EACH~~ AT EACH LOCATION WHERE A DRINKING FOUNTAIN IS REQUIRED UNDER THE CURRENT VERSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING CODE ADOPTED BY THE STATE OR STATE OR LOCAL LAW OR REGULATION;

(2) REPLACE A DRINKING FOUNTAIN LOCATED IN AN AREA OF A BUILDING UNDERGOING A RENOVATION IF THE RENOVATION INCLUDES REPLACING THE DRINKING FOUNTAIN; AND

(3) BE INSTALLED IN ANY BUILDING UNDERGOING A RENOVATION IF THE INSTALLATION OF A DRINKING FOUNTAIN IS REQUIRED UNDER THE CURRENT VERSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING CODE ADOPTED BY THE STATE OR STATE OR LOCAL LAW OR REGULATION.

(B) THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY IF:

(1) A DRINKING FOUNTAIN IN A BUILDING LOCATED IN A COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL AREA IS REPLACED WITH NO OTHER RENOVATIONS MADE; OR

(2) A BUILDING LOCATED IN A COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL AREA HAS POTABLE WATER AVAILABLE THROUGH A SOURCE OTHER THAN A DRINKING FOUNTAIN, INCLUDING A KITCHEN.

9-2703.

THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or application to any new construction under contract before the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2025.