

HOUSE BILL 277

M3
HB 841/24 – ENT

(PRE-FILED)

5lr0704
CF SB 96

By: **Delegates Ruth, Lehman, Charkoudian, Ebersole, Fair, Feldmark, Foley, Palakovich Carr, Stein, Terrasa, Vogel, Wims, Woods, Woorman, ~~and Wu~~ Wu, and Healey**

Requested: August 23, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 18, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Water Bottle Filling Stations – Requirement**

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

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Environment

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

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Environment**

17 **SUBTITLE 27. WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATIONS.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 9-2701.

2 IN THIS SUBTITLE:

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

7 (2) "WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATION" INCLUDES:

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

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

13 9-2702.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7 **9-2703.**

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

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

13 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
14 1, 2025.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.