

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 496 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY WARREN, SANCHEZ, HILL-EVANS, HOWARD, SHUSTERMAN,  
DEASY AND SIMS, FEBRUARY 10, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 10, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), entitled  
 2 "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the  
 3 executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the  
 4 Executive Department thereof and the administrative  
 5 departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof,  
 6 including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or  
 7 Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or  
 8 authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative  
 9 departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and  
 10 duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative  
 11 officers, and of the several administrative departments,  
 12 boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the  
 13 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive  
 14 and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of  
 15 certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and  
 16 other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards,  
 17 and commissions; providing for judicial administration; and  
 18 prescribing the manner in which the number and compensation  
 19 of the deputies and all other assistants and employes of  
 20 certain departments, boards and commissions shall be  
 21 determined," in powers and duties of the Department of  
 22 General Services and its departmental administrative and  
 23 advisory boards and commissions, providing for water bottle  
 24 filling stations.

25 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
 26 hereby enacts as follows:

27 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known  
 28 as The Administrative Code of 1929, is amended by adding a  
 29 section to read:

1 Section 2422. Water Bottle Filling Stations.--(a) This  
2 section is intended to:

3 (1) Encourage the consumption of potable water using  
4 reusable water bottles as an alternative to single-use  
5 disposable water bottles or sugar-sweetened beverages.

6 (2) Provide consumers with a convenient means, in visible  
7 and user-friendly locations, to fill reusable water bottles with  
8 clean, potable water.

9 (3) Provide a more environmentally friendly alternative  
10 regarding potable water.

11 (4) Provide consumers with a more cost-effective alternative  
12 regarding potable water.

13 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, standards  
14 relating to water bottle filling stations shall comply with the  
15 act of November 10, 1999 (P.L.491, No.45), known as the  
16 "Pennsylvania Construction Code Act," and other applicable  
17 plumbing standards.

18 (c) The following general standards shall apply:

19 (1) A water bottle filling station shall not be:

20 (i) accessible to the mouth of a drinker;

21 (ii) subject to immersion; or

22 (iii) installed within a restroom.

23 (2) A water bottle filling station may discharge water  
24 directly or indirectly into a separate or combination drainage  
25 system.

26 (d) Water bottle filling stations shall be installed as  
27 follows:

28 (1) For each building or structure of the Commonwealth which  
29 is constructed after the effective date of this subsection, a  
30 water bottle filling station shall be installed where a drinking

1 fountain is required to be installed.

2 (2) For each building or structure within this Commonwealth  
3 that undergoes a major improvement involving plumbing or pipe  
4 fitting infrastructure after the effective date of this  
5 subsection, a water bottle filling station shall be installed  
6 where an operational drinking fountain is or was required to be  
7 installed.

8 (e) The department shall promulgate rules and regulations as  
9 necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

10 (f) The following words and phrases when used in this  
11 section shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection  
12 unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 "Department." The Department of General Services of the  
14 Commonwealth.

15 "Water bottle filling station." A unit which:

16 (1) supplies potable water to a water bottle from a downward  
17 facing water orifice;

18 (2) delivers a minimum of eight gallons per hour of water at  
19 a temperature of not more than fifty (50) degrees Fahrenheit;

20 (3) is mounted on the wall or floor;

21 (4) is a separate unit or a combination unit that includes a  
22 drinking fountain; and

23 (5) complies with all applicable water quality standards  
24 under the act of May 1, 1984 (P.L.206, No.43), known as the  
25 "Pennsylvania Safe Drinking Water Act."

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.