

SENATE BILL 2102

By Massey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 13; Title 49, Chapter 2 and Title 49, Chapter 3, relative to access to water in public schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 2, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a) An LEA or the governing body of a public charter school that constructs or renovates a public school building or public charter school building must include as a part of the construction or renovation the installation of student-accessible water bottle filling stations as follows:

(1) At least one (1) water bottle filling station for every seventy-five (75) students enrolled in the school;

(2) At least one (1) water bottle filling station on each floor of the school building;

(3) At least one (1) water bottle filling station in each school food service area; and

(4) At least one (1) water bottle filling station in close proximity to:

(A) Gymnasiums;

(B) Outdoor learning and activity areas;

(C) Playgrounds; and

(D) Athletic facilities.

(b) Upon installation, a water bottle filling station must be regularly cleaned and maintained.

(c) A public school or public charter school that installs a water bottle filling station pursuant to subsection (a) shall not prohibit a student from bringing a clear water bottle to school.

(d) As used in this section, "water bottle filling station" means a water fountain that dispenses clean filtered drinking water that has been cooled into a bottle.

SECTION 2. The state board of education is authorized to promulgate rules to effectuate the purposes of this act. The rules shall be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020, the public welfare requiring it.