

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 132

BY REPRESENTATIVE PIERRE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

SCHOOLS: Requires newly constructed public school buildings and those undergoing major plumbing renovations to be equipped with water bottle filling stations

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:100.13, relative to public school buildings; to require installation of water  
3 bottle filling stations in certain circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1. The legislature finds that water consumption:

- 6 (1) Plays an important role in maintaining a child's overall health.
- 7 (2) Can positively impact children's cognitive performance.
- 8 (3) Can improve children's fine motor skills.
- 9 (4) Can help people maintain a healthier weight.

10 Section 2. R.S. 17:100.13 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §100.13. Public school buildings; water bottle filling stations

12 A.(1) Any new school building and any existing school building that  
13 undergoes a major plumbing renovation shall include the following:

14 (a) At least one water bottle filling station per two hundred people projected  
15 to occupy the school building.

16 (b) At least one water bottle filling station on each floor of the school  
17 building.

18 (c) At least one water bottle filling station located near all cafeterias,  
19 gymnasiums, outdoor recreation spaces, and other high-traffic areas.

1           (2) A city, parish, or other local public school board may install more filling  
2           stations than provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, as deemed appropriate.

3           (3) Plans for an existing school building may include retrofitting existing  
4           drinking fountains into water bottle filling stations.

5           B. For purposes of this Section:

6           (1) "Water bottle filling station" means a water dispenser, accessible to all  
7           people in compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, that  
8           dispenses clean drinking water directly into a bottle or other drinking container. A  
9           water bottle filling station shall be considered a drinking fountain for purposes of the  
10          International Plumbing Code, as incorporated within the State Uniform Construction  
11          Code.

12          (2) A "major plumbing renovation" to an existing school building means the  
13          replacement, repair, alteration, or upgrade of water systems or fixtures within an  
14          existing facility, which involves more than fifty percent of the fixtures in the facility,  
15          even if such renovation does not include any structural change to the facility. Such  
16          renovation shall not include repairs done as a result of damages from a natural  
17          disaster.

18          Section 3. R.S. 17:100.13 as enacted by this Act is applicable to all newly  
19          constructed public school buildings for which construction commences on or after  
20          August 31, 2021, and to any existing public school building undergoing a major renovation  
21          that commences on or after August 31, 2021.

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#### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 132 Reengrossed

2021 Regular Session

Pierre

**Abstract:** Requires installation of water bottle filling stations in new public school buildings and existing school buildings undergoing major plumbing renovations.

Proposed law requires installation of water bottle filling stations at a new public school building and an existing public school building that undergoes a major plumbing renovation. Applies to construction and major plumbing renovations that commence on or after Aug. 31, 2021.

Proposed law defines "water bottle filling station" as a water dispenser, accessible to all people in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, that dispenses clean drinking water directly into a bottle or other drinking container. Provides such station counts as a "drinking fountain" as provided in the State Uniform Construction Code.

Proposed law defines "major plumbing renovation" as changes to an existing school building that replace, repair, alter, or upgrade water systems or fixtures.

(Adds R.S. 17:100.13)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Further define a "water bottle filling station" as a "drinking fountain" for purposes of the La. Building Code.
2. Replace criteria triggering applicability of proposed law from a "major renovation" to a "major plumbing renovation".

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add requirement for filling stations in additional locations.
2. Reduce number of required filling stations based on number of building occupants.