

Montgomery County Council of PTA's Health and Wellness Committee

**Written Testimony Submitted for the Record to the Maryland House of Delegates
Environment and Transportation - For the Hearing on
Environment - Plastic Bottle Waste Reduction - Water Bottle Filling Stations and Reporting HB841
February 21, 2024
SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT**

The Montgomery County Council of PTAs (MCCPTA) Health and Wellness Committee advocates for children's wellbeing, including protecting them from lead exposure. We enthusiastically support this bill that will reduce water bottle usage and are happy to see that it includes language that the water bottle filling stations will include a filter. We do offer an amendment to add the words in bold below.

(II) A STATION THAT INCORPORATES A WATER FILTER that is **NSF/ANSI 42, 53 and 401 certified to filter lead and other contaminants in drinking water**, AND COOLING SYSTEM FOR CHILLING THE WATER.

We also recommend that you look for filtered tested against NSF/ANSI Standard 42 for particulate reduction.

These filters also have the capability to block certain PFAs as well. Please see this [EPA guideline](#)¹ on selecting filters for lead. We have the chance to reduce exposure to lead and other contaminants in our state buildings, and these standards will help protect our population.

MCCPTA Health and Wellness Committee urges the passage of HB841 with this important amendment.

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¹https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2018-12/documents/consumer_tool_for_identifying_drinking_water_filters_certified_to_reduce_lead.pdf