

1 SJR91  
2 212902-1  
3 By Senators Coleman-Madison, Smitherman, Hatcher, Figures,  
4 Jones, Albritton, Allen, Barfoot, Beasley, Butler, Chambliss,  
5 Chesteen, Dunn, Elliott, Givhan, Gudger, Holley, Livingston,  
6 Marsh, McClendon, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed, Roberts,  
7 Sanders-Fortier, Scofield, Sessions, Shelnutt, Singleton,  
8 Stutts, Waggoner, Whatley and Williams  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 08-APR-21

URGING THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO REQUIRE THE INSTALLATION OF DRINKING FOUNTAINS, WATER COOLERS, OR WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATIONS IN PUBLIC K-12 SCHOOLS.

WHEREAS, drinking water plays an important role in maintaining a child's overall health; and

WHEREAS, drinking water can positively impact a child's cognitive performance; and

WHEREAS, drinking water can improve a child's fine motor skills and visual attention, which helps with learning activities such as reading; and

WHEREAS, drinking water can help a child maintain a healthy weight; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the State Board of Education and local boards of education are strongly urged to require the installation, in public K-12 school buildings, of a minimum of one drinking fountain, water cooler, or water bottle filling station, which will dispense cooled and

1 filtered drinking water and be regularly cleaned and  
2 maintained, per 100 individuals projected to occupy the  
3 building.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the State Board of  
5 Education and local boards of education are urged to require  
6 all of the following:

7 (a) The placement of drinking fountains, water  
8 coolers, or water bottle filling stations in common areas of  
9 public K-12 school buildings, including, but not limited to:  
10 Hallways; cafeterias; gymnasiums; outdoor physical activity  
11 spaces; and faculty lounges.

12 (b) Any drinking fountains, water coolers, and water  
13 bottle filling stations provided in public K-12 schools to be  
14 accessible to all individuals, regardless of age, ability, or  
15 disability.

16 (c) Public K-12 schools to allow students, teachers,  
17 and staff to use water bottles anywhere it is safe to have or  
18 consume drinking water.

19 (d) Public K-12 schools to provide access to  
20 drinking water and cups or other drinking containers during  
21 mealtimes.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the State Department of  
23 Education is urged to provide adequate funding for local  
24 boards of education to provide drinking fountains, water  
25 coolers, and water bottle filling stations in public K-12  
26 schools.

1                   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this  
2       resolution shall be provided to the State Superintendent of  
3       Education and each member of the State Board of Education as  
4       an expression of our intent.