



HOUSE BILL 557: Reopen Gym Water Fountains/Bottle Stations.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee:	House Judiciary 4. If favorable, re-refer to Health. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	May 4, 2021
Introduced by:	Rep. Johnson	Prepared by:	Kara McCraw
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *HB 557 would require any guidance document or executive order issued in response to COVID-19 to require indoor fitness centers and gyms to provide at least one operating water fountain or at least one operating touchless water bottle refilling station to patrons.*

CURRENT LAW: The Interim Guidance for Indoor Fitness Centers and Gyms Settings issued by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) on April 30, 2021, recommends that indoor fitness centers and gyms discontinue use of drinking directly from water fountains and instead provide disposable cups or labeled water bottles for individuals when using any water fountains, or use touchless water filling stations.

BILL ANALYSIS: HB 557 would require that any interim guidance issued by DHHS, executive orders issued by the Governor, or other guidance issued by any Executive Branch agency or unit of local government that is (i) applicable to indoor fitness centers and gyms and (ii) is issued in response to the COVID-19 pandemic must require all indoor fitness centers and gyms to provide at least one operating water fountain or at least one operating touchless water bottle refilling station to patrons, if the facility had an existing operational water fountain or touchless water bottle refilling station.

EFFECTIVE DATE: HB 557 would become effective when it becomes law and would expire on the date the Governor rescinds Executive Order No. 116, Declaration of a State of Emergency to Coordinate Response and Protective Actions to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19.

Jeffrey Hudson
Director



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Legislative Analysis
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