H.B. 360
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Crawley and Hillyer

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SUMMARY

- Prescribes minimum drinking fountain and water bottle filling station requirements for new state-assisted classroom facility construction projects.
- Requires public schools to ensure that each drinking fountain and water bottle filling station installed as part of a project is regularly cleaned and maintained.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Drinking fountain and water bottle filling station requirements

The bill establishes requirements regarding drinking fountains and water bottle filling stations or classroom facility construction projects administered by the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission. The new requirements are in addition to building code requirements provided for under continuing law and rule.

The bill specifies that the Commission must require that the design plans for each facility included in a project provide for all of the following:

- A minimum of two water bottle filling stations in each building;
- A minimum of one drinking fountain or water bottle filling station on each floor and wing of each building; and

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1 R.C. 3318.038(B).
2 R.C. 3318.038(D).
A minimum of one drinking fountain or water bottle filling station for every one hundred students projected to attend the building upon the project’s completion.\(^3\)

Under the bill, a drinking fountain must be designed to allow an individual to drink from it, dispense filtered and clean drinking water, and be equipped with both a protective cowl and a water spout at least one inch above the fountain’s overflow rim. A water bottle filling station must be designed to fill a bottle with water and dispense filtered and clean drinking water.\(^4\)

**Required maintenance of fountains and filling stations**

Under the bill, each school district and other public school governing body must ensure that each drinking fountain or water bottle filling station installed in a facility included in a project is regularly cleaned and maintained.\(^5\)

**Background**

The Commission administers several programs that provide state assistance to school districts and other public schools in constructing classroom facilities. The main program, the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program, is designed to provide each city, exempted village, and local school district with partial funding to address all of the district’s classroom facilities needs. It is a graduated, cost-sharing program where a district’s portion of the total cost of the project and priority for funding are based on the district’s relative wealth. Other smaller programs address the particular needs of certain types of districts and schools. These, too, are cost-sharing programs.

**HISTORY**

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\(^3\) R.C. 3318.038(B).

\(^4\) R.C. 3318.038(A).

\(^5\) R.C. 3318.038(C).