

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

**H.B. 557**  
**Apr 13, 2021**  
**HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK**

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HOUSE BILL DRH40348-MM-69

Short Title: Reopen Gym Water Fountains/Bottle Stations. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Johnson.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE FITNESS CENTERS AND GYMS TO PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE  
3 WATER FOUNTAIN OR TOUCHLESS WATER BOTTLE REFILLING STATION  
4 DURING THE COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all (i) Interim Guidance  
7 for Indoor Fitness Centers and Gyms Settings issued by the North Carolina Department of Health  
8 and Human Services, (ii) executive orders issued by the Governor applicable to indoor fitness  
9 centers and gym settings, and (iii) other guidance issued by any Executive Branch agency or unit  
10 of local government applicable to indoor fitness centers and gyms and that are issued in response  
11 to the COVID-19 pandemic shall require all indoor fitness centers and gyms to provide at least  
12 one operating water fountain or at least one operating touchless water bottle refilling station to  
13 patrons.

14 **SECTION 2.** Nothing in this act shall be construed to require the installation of a  
15 water fountain or touchless water bottle refilling station if one is not otherwise required by law,  
16 code, or local ordinance.

17 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law and expires on the date the  
18 Governor rescinds Executive Order No. 116, Declaration of a State of Emergency to Coordinate  
19 Response and Protective Actions to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19.

