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WATER VENDING MACHINES

House Bill 4929
Sponsor: Rep. Gary L. Randall
Committee: Agriculture, Forestry
and Minerals

Complete to 8-26-91

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4929 AS INTRODUCED 6-6-91

Under the Food Processing Act (Public Act 328 of 1977), the Department of Agriculture regulates water dispensing machines located inside food establishments licensed under the act. The Department of Public Health regulates vending machines, including water vending machines, defined in the Public Health Code as self-service devices offered for public use that dispense "unit servings of food or beverages" upon the insertion of a coin or token ("or by other similar means"). Devices that dispense only bottled or canned soft drinks, other packaged nonperishable foods or beverages, or bulk ball gum, nuts, and panned candies are not included under the health code's definition of "vending machine."

The bill would revise the Public Health Code to specifically exempt from the definition of "vending machine" water dispensing machines located in food establishments licensed under the Food Processing Act. The bill also would revise the definition of "vending machine" to specify that it applied to self-service devices that dispensed unit servings of food or beverages not only upon the insertion of a coin or token, but also upon the insertion of a card, key, or paper currency.

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