

ARTICLE 30
Repeal of Bottled Water Ban

ARTICLE 30
Repeal of Bottled Water Ban

MOTION

Repeal the ban that outlaws the sale of drinking water in single-serve plastic bottles that contain PET and is 1 liter and under.

ARTICLE 30
Repeal of Bottled Water Ban

1. History

- Last year, Concord Town Meeting narrowly approved a ban on the sale of single-size bottled water.
- Town Meeting 2012 was the third consecutive year that the proponents of this ban proposed and Article at Town Meeting.

2. Burden of the Board of Health

- Department has not hired additional staff.
- The existing staff is now responsible for making sure over 130 businesses are complying.
- This enforcement has taken staff away from other high priority tasks, including health inspections.

3. Freedom of Choice Compromised

- Town has taken a safe, healthy beverage choice away from residents and visitors.
- Town should give residents and visitors the benefit of the doubt that they will act responsibly when disposing of their refuse.

4. The Ban is Counterproductive

- The ban has not reduced the amount of plastic in the waste stream.
- It has increased the amount of plastic in the waste stream by forcing consumers to buy beverages that use a higher amount of plastic because of the sugar and carbonation content.
- Ban encourages consumers to buy a larger bottle of water than what they want.

ARTICLE 30
Repeal of Bottle Water Ban

- The ban forces Concord residents to drive to other towns to purchase their single-serve water bottles. Thus forces residents to use more fossil fuel.