



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 6857**



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Section 410

Question:

Is it the intent of Section 410.1 to allow a bottle water dispenser in a mercantile space of 751 square feet instead of a drinking fountain.

Answer

No. The bottled water coolers are allowed to replace only 50% of the required drinking fountains. As a practical matter, this usually means that one wheelchair accessible drinking fountain must be provided. A second drinking fountain must be provided to accommodate patrons that cannot bend over to access the wheelchair accessible drinking fountain. The bottled water cooler with cup dispenser may be provided in lieu of this second drinking fountain.

Commentary:

None.

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.