

1 BY AUTHORITY

2 ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
3 SERIES OF 2024

COUNCIL BILL NO. 24-0285  
COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE:

4 Business, Arts, Workforce, Climate & Aviation Services

5  
6 A BILL

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8 **For an ordinance amending Chapter 23 of the Revised Municipal Code to require**  
9 **food service establishments to offer healthy drink choices for children.**

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11 **WHEREAS**, the health and wellbeing of children is a priority for the City; and

12 **WHEREAS**, by delaying enforcement until July 1, 2025, the City will have considerable time to  
13 educate businesses and encourage voluntary compliance;

14 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF**  
15 **DENVER:**

16 **Section 1.** That Chapter 23 of the Revised Municipal Code shall be amended by adding a new  
17 division 3, to read as follows:

18 **DIVISION 3. - HEALTHY DRINKS IN CHILDREN'S MEALS**

19 **Sec. 23-60. - Definitions**

20 The following terms as used in this division have the following meanings unless the context  
21 clearly indicates otherwise:

22 (1) *Children's meal* means a combination of food items and a beverage, or a single food  
23 item and a beverage, sold together at a single price, primarily intended for consumption by a child.

24 (2) *Default beverage* means the drink that is included or offered in the children's meal  
25 absent a customer's request for a specific beverage.

26 **Sec. 23-61. - Default beverages in children's meals.**

27 (a) On and after July 1, 2025, a retail food establishment that sells a children's meal shall  
28 make the default beverage sold with the children's meal one of the following items:

29 (1) Water, still or sparkling, with no added sugar; or

30 (2) Dairy milk or non-dairy milk substitute with no added sugar.

31 (b) Menus shall only list the beverages described in subsection (a) of this section in  
32 conjunction with children's meals. Employees shall not offer any beverage other than the default  
33 beverage.

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(c) Nothing in this section prohibits a retail food establishment's ability to sell, or the customer's ability to purchase, any other beverage that is available if requested by the purchaser of the children's meal.

COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATE: March 6, 2024

MAYOR-COUNCIL DATE: March 12, 2024

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ - PRESIDENT

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ - MAYOR \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ - CLERK AND RECORDER,  
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE  
CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE DAILY JOURNAL \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_

PREPARED BY: Jonathan Griffin, Assistant City Attorney                      DATE: February 23, 2024

Pursuant to section 13-9, D.R.M.C., this proposed ordinance has been reviewed by the office of the City Attorney. We find no irregularity as to form and have no legal objection to the proposed ordinance. The proposed ordinance is not submitted to the City Council for approval pursuant to § 3.2.6 of the Charter.

Kerry Tipper, City Attorney

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ City Attorney                      DATE: \_\_\_\_\_