



## Riverkeeper 2021 Legislative Memorandum

### Support- S543/A5082 (Kaminsky/Englebright)

*Prohibits hotels from making available to its hotel guests small plastic bottles containing hospitality personal care products*

Riverkeeper strongly supports S543/A5082, which would prohibit hotels from providing guests with hospitality products in plastic bottles. Passing this bill would greatly help NY hotels and their patrons contribute to less single-use waste. Hotels such as Marriott International and IHG, the company that owns Holiday Inn Kimpton, and other hotel companies, are already moving in the direction to remove single-use plastic waste from their businesses<sup>1</sup>.

Passing this bill would allow hotels to use other methods that hotels can provide hospitality products such as a wall-mounted dispenser, larger bottles, or packaging other than plastic bottles<sup>2</sup>. Implementing this bill would further decrease the waste from the hospitality sector. In New York City alone, hotels produce an estimated 27 million plastic bottles annually<sup>3</sup>. This bill would place penalties on hotels to prevent the hotels from utilizing plastic bottles for their hospitality products. Under the proposed legislation, hotels would be fined \$250 for the first violation after receiving a warning if they do not follow the plastic bottle ban and may receive an additional \$500 for further violations.

Riverkeeper strongly urges the legislature to pass this legislation to reduce plastic pollution.

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/hotels/2019/11/22/plastic-waste-problem-hotel-shampoo-bottles-c-hopping-block/4239121002/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2019/sep/18/ny-lawmaker-wants-ban-on-plastic-toiletry-bottles-/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://apnews.com/article/8749226bb0b646d1a7b81bac57726a7d>