Question: Do you think the sale of plastic water bottles should be banned from on campus locations?

Question Type: A Call for the Northeastern Administration to Act

Introductory Clauses:
Whereas: The U.S. spends $11.8 billion annually on bottled water. A reusable water bottle can save $1,400 per year for the average American; AND
Whereas: Bottled water is up to 10,000 times more expensive to produce than drinking tap water, and the disposal of plastic bottles costs the U.S. $5.8 million a year while using 2000 times the energy it takes to produce tap water; AND
Whereas: Americans use 29-35 billion water bottles a year, and only less than a third of which are recycled. These bottles not recycled often collect in oceans, lakes, and streams where they impact wildlife and can take hundreds of years to disintegrate; AND
Whereas: Communities in the U.S. like Flint, do not have easy access to clean drinking water. In addition, drought-stricken areas often suffer from a lack of clean water but bottling companies continue to extract millions of gallons of water from those areas; AND
Whereas: Universities all across the U.S., including Sebastian’s Cafe at the Harvard School of Public Health, have banned the use of plastic water bottles. The elimination at Sebastian’s Cafe has specifically led to the elimination of approximately 1,000 plastic bottles per week.

Therefore, be it resolved...
It is the Sense of the Student Body that in keeping with its commitment to leadership in sustainability, Northeastern University should take steps to address the carbon footprint of the University. The Undergraduate Student Body specifically calls upon the Northeastern University Administration to take the following actions regarding sustainability:

1. Institute a policy to eliminate plastic water bottles from Chartwells-contracted on-campus businesses.
2. Distribute reusable water bottles to students at the beginning of the Fall semester.