

§121.2626 specifies a maximum extractable fraction in distilled water of 0.006 weight percent at reflux temperature for 1 hour utilizing particles of a size that will pass through a U. S. standard sieve No. 10 and will be held on a U. S. standard sieve No. 20. Maximum extractable fraction in n-heptane is limited to 0.02 weight percent at 73° F. for 2 hours utilizing particles that will pass through a No. 10 sieve and be held on a No. 20 sieve.

The provisions of the new Order are not applicable to styrene-maleic anhydride copolymers listed in other Food Additive Orders for indirect additive uses.

FDA AUTHORITY OVER BOTTLED WATER RETAINED IN BILL

A compromise House-Senate version of the drinking water supply bill (S 433), passed last week by the Senate, would maintain the authority under which the Food and Drug Administration has proposed a standard for bottled water (See FOOD CHEMICAL NEWS, March 4, Page 32).

The two houses of Congress had worked out a compromise on federal drinking water legislation in an attempt to avoid a House-Senate Conference Committee on the measure (See FOOD CHEMICAL NEWS, Nov. 25, Page 26).

The bill originally passed by the Senate would have revoked FDA authority to regulate bottled water. The measure, which had passed in June of 1973, would have provided that the authority "to regulate bottled drinking water under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act ... shall be repealed on the effective date of initial national primary drinking water standards pertaining to bottled drinking water under ... this Act."

The provision in the House-passed bill, which has now been adopted by the Senate, provides that whenever the Environmental Protection Agency sets standards for drinking water, FDA must consult with EPA "and within 180 days after the promulgation of such drinking water regulations either promulgate amendments to regulations ... applicable to bottled drinking water or publish in the Federal Register its reasons for not making such amendments."

The Senate-amended bill was returned to the House on Nov. 26.

Senate Approves Reduced Budget

Budget cuts of 25% for the Agriculture Department, FDA, Federal Trade Commission, and the Office of Consumer Affairs were maintained in the appropriations bill (HR 16901), approved by the Senate on Nov. 25 (See FOOD CHEMICAL NEWS, Nov. 25, Page 34).

President Ford's budget message recommending cuts in funds for 1975 would not reduce the funds for these agencies below the levels voted by Congress.

In other recent action, Congress overrode the Presidential veto of the Freedom of Information Act. The vote in the House was 371-to-31, with the Senate voting 65-to-27 to overturn the veto.