

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

# SENATE JOURNAL

EIGHTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION, 2024  
TWENTY-NINTH DAY

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Charleston, West Virginia, Wednesday, February 7, 2024

The Senate met at 11:01 a.m.

(Senator Blair, Mr. President, in the Chair.)

Prayer was offered by Pastor Josh Rhodes, Community Life Pastor, Chestnut Ridge Church, Morgantown, West Virginia.

The Senate was then led in recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance by the Honorable Jay Taylor, a senator from the fourteenth district.

Pending the reading of the Journal of Tuesday, February 6, 2024,

At the request of Senator Stuart, unanimous consent being granted, the Journal was approved and the further reading thereof dispensed with.

The Senate proceeded to the second order of business and the introduction of guests.

Senator Nelson called attention to today being the birthday of the senator from Harrison and on behalf of the Senate extended felicitations and good wishes to Senator Queen.

The Senate then proceeded to the third order of business.

A message from the Clerk of the House of Delegates announced the amendment by that body, passage as amended with its House of Delegates amended title, to take effect from passage, and requested the concurrence of the Senate in the House of Delegates amendments, as to

**Eng. Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 300**, Relating to organization of Office of Inspector General.

On motion of Senator Takubo, the bill was taken up for immediate consideration.

The following House of Delegates amendments to the bill were reported by the Clerk:

On page 8, by inserting the following:

**"CHAPTER 5F. REORGANIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH  
OF STATE GOVERNMENT.**

**ARTICLE 2. TRANSFER OF AGENCIES AND BOARDS.****§5F-2-1a. Termination of the department of health and human resources; transfer and incorporation of agencies and boards legislative intent; creation of new departments.**

(a) It is the intent of the Legislature to devolve the functions of the Department of Health and Human Resources into three new and separate departments of the executive branch as provided in this Act over a period of transition that concludes with the termination of the Department of Health and Human Resources. It is the intent of the Legislature that the provisions of this Act be construed to achieve the restructuring and reallocation of the powers, duties and functions of the Department of Health and Human Resources to the three new departments created in this section in an orderly manner designed to maintain the delivery of services that have heretofore been provided by the Department of Health and Human Resources by the new departments during the transition and beyond the termination of the Department of Health and Human Resources without disruption and to streamline and, where possible, to share administrative and operative expenses where common to each of the new departments. To that end, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Resources, the Secretary of the Department of Human Services, the Secretary of the Department of Health and the Secretary of the Department of Health Facilities shall enter into a memorandum of understanding to effect the provisions of this Act that shall, at a minimum, create a Office of Shared Administration mutually administered by the secretaries that shall coordinate efforts with the Department of Administration to maximize efficiencies and function of services in an effort to contain expenses within the Department of Human Services, the Department of Health and the Department of Health Facilities. The Office of Shared Administration shall implement a plan to maximize function and efficiency administrative services for the purpose of streamlining administrative services and reducing expenses within the departments. The Office of Shared Administration shall complete implementation by June 30, 2024, and shall provide quarterly updates to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Health and Human Resources Accountability.

(b) ~~(4)~~ The Department of Human Services created under §5F-1-2 of this code ~~beginning January 1, 2024,~~ is a separate and distinct department of the executive branch. ~~Beginning January 1, 2024,~~ The following agencies and boards, including all of the allied, advisory, affiliated, or related entities and funds associated with any agency or board, are transferred to, incorporated in and administered as a part of the Department of Human Services:

~~(A)~~ (1) Bureau for Social Services;

~~(B)~~ (2) Bureau for Medical Services;

~~(C)~~ (3) Bureau for Child Support Enforcement;

~~(D)~~ (4) Bureau for Family Assistance;

~~(E)~~ (5) Bureau for Behavioral Health; and

~~(F)~~ (6) Any other agency or entity hereinafter established within the Department of Human Services by an act of the Legislature.

~~(2) Beginning January 1, 2024, when, as used in this code, it appears from the context of the terms "Department of Health and Human Resources" or "department" in lieu thereof that the term~~

~~refers to the entity exercising the powers or duties of the entities specified in subdivision (1) of this subsection, those terms shall mean the Department of Human Services.~~

(c) (1) The Department of Health created under §5F-1-2 of this code ~~beginning January 1, 2024,~~ is a separate and distinct department of the executive branch. ~~Beginning January 1, 2024,~~ The following agencies and boards, including all of the allied, advisory, affiliated, or related entities and funds associated with any agency or board, are transferred to, incorporated in and administered as a part of the Department of Health:

(A) Bureau for Public Health;

(B) Office of Emergency Medical Services;

(C) Office of the Chief Medical Examiner;

(D) Center for Threat Preparedness;

(E) Health Care Authority; and

~~(F) Office of the Inspector General, which shall include:~~

~~(i) Office of Health Facility Licensure and Certification;~~

~~(ii) Board of Review;~~

~~(iii) Foster Care Ombudsman;~~

~~(iv) Olmstead Office;~~

~~(v) Investigations and Fraud Management;~~

~~(vi) Quality Control;~~

~~(vii) Mental Health Ombudsman;~~

~~(viii) WV Clearance for Access: Registry and Employment Screening; and~~

~~(ix) Human Rights Commission; and~~

(F) Any other agency or entity hereinafter established within the Department of Health by an act of the Legislature.

(2) The Office of the Inspector General is a separate and autonomous agency within the Department of Health as provided in §16B-2-1. The following agencies and boards, including all of the allied, advisory, affiliated, or related entities and funds associated with any agency or board, are transferred to, incorporated in and administered as a part of the Office of the Inspector General. The Office of the Inspector General, shall include:

(A) Office of Health Facility Licensure and Certification;

(B) Board of Review;

(C) Foster Care Ombudsman;

(D) Olmstead Office;

(E) Investigations and Fraud Management;

(F) Quality Control;

(G) Mental Health Ombudsman;

(H) WV Clearance for Access: Registry and Employment Screening; and

(I) Human Rights Commission.

~~Beginning January 1, 2024, when, as used in this code, it appears from the context of the terms "Department of Health and Human Resources" or "department" in lieu thereof that the term refers to the entity exercising the powers or duties of the entities specified in subdivision (1) of this subsection, those terms shall mean the Department of Health.~~

(d) (4) The Department of Health Facilities created under §5F-1-2 of this code beginning January 1, 2024, is a separate and distinct department of the executive branch. Beginning January 1, 2024, The following state facilities, including all of the allied, advisory, affiliated, or related entities and funds associated with any state facility, are transferred to, incorporated in and administered as a part of the Department of Health Facilities:

(A) (1) Hopemont Hospital;

(B) (2) Jackie Withrow Hospital;

(C) (3) John Manchin, Sr. Health Care Center;

(D) (4) Lakin Hospital;

(E) (5) Mildred Mitchell-Bateman Hospital;

(F) (6) Welch Community Hospital;

(G) (7) William R. Sharpe Jr. Hospital; and

(H) (8) Any other agency or entity hereinafter established within the Department of Health Facilities by an act of the Legislature.

~~(2) Beginning January 1, 2024, when, as used in this code, it appears from the context of the terms "Department of Health and Human Resources" or "department" in lieu thereof that the term refers to the entity exercising the powers or duties of the entities specified in subdivision (1) of this subsection, those terms shall mean the Department of Health Facilities.~~

~~(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code to the contrary, before December 1, 2023, the Department of Health and Human Resources shall create and present to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Health and Human Resources Accountability a long term sustainability plan for each state health facility.~~

(e) Any secretary may recommend that a bureau, office, board, commission or other state entity be included or excluded from the organization of the departments created in this section to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance and the Legislative Commission on Health and Human Resources Accountability.

~~(f) Except for powers, authority, and duties that have been delegated to the secretaries of the departments created under this section and §5F-2-2 of this code, the position of administrator and the powers, authority, and duties of each administrator and agency are not affected by this act.~~

~~(g) Except for powers, authority, and duties that have been delegated to the secretaries of the departments under this section and §5F-2-2 of this code, the existence, powers, authority, and duties of boards, commissions and councils and the membership, terms, and qualifications of members of the boards, commissions and councils are not affected by this act. All boards, commissions and councils that are appellate bodies or are independent decision makers may not have their appellate or independent decision making status affected by this act.~~

~~(h) Nothing in this section extends the powers of department secretaries to any person other than a department secretary and nothing limits or abridges the statutory powers and duties of statutory commissioners or officers pursuant to this code.~~

(i) (f) All programs, orders, determinations, rules, permits, grants, contracts, certificates, bonds, authorizations and privileges which have been issued, promulgated, made, granted or allowed to become pursuant to authority provided by this code to the Department of Health and Human Resources or the Secretary of that Department that are in effect on the dates of the creation of the new departments as provided in this section shall continue in effect according to their terms until modified, terminated, superseded, set aside or revoked by the department or secretary that assumes authority over the subject matter of the same under the provisions of this Act.";

And,

On page 27, line 10, after the word, "Governor," by inserting the words, "within 90 days of a vacancy,";

And,

On page 28, line 28, by striking the words, "not to exceed \$175,000." and inserting in lieu thereof the words, "as provided in the budget.";

And,

On page 29, line 41, after the word, "Unit" by inserting the words, "within the Office of the Attorney General";

And,

On page 31, line, 114, after the word, "Governor," by inserting the words, "within 90 days of a vacancy,";

And,

On page 31, line, 118, after the word, "Governor," by inserting the words, "within 90 days of a vacancy,";

And,

On page 32, line, 120, by inserting a new subsection (w), to read as follows:

"(w) The Inspector General, the Director of The Office of Health Facility Licensure and Certification and the Director of the Investigations and Fraud Management may not be the same person.";

And,

On page 32, by striking §16B-2-2 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new §16B-2-2 to read as follows:

**§16B-2-2. Board of Review- judicial review of decisions of contested cases.**

(a) The Board of Review shall provide a fair, impartial, and expeditious grievance and appeal process to applicants or recipients of assistance as defined in §9-1-2 et seq. of this code and to all parties of contested cases arising under §29A-5-1 et seq.

(b) The Bureau of Medical Services shall provide a fair, impartial, and expeditious grievance and appeal process to providers of Medicaid services.

(c) Any party adversely affected or aggrieved by a final decision or order of the board or the bureau may seek judicial review of that decision by filing an appeal to the Intermediate Court of Appeals as provided in §29A-5-4 et seq. of this code.

(d) The process established by this section is the exclusive remedy for judicial review of final decisions of the Board of Review and the Bureau for Medical Services.;

And,

On page 32, by striking §16B-2-3 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new §16B-2-3 to read as follows:

**"§16B-2-3. Board of Review; subpoena powers.**

(a) The Inspector General and the Chair of the Board of Review may subpoena witnesses, papers, records, documents and any other information or data it considers necessary for its determination. They shall issue all subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum in the name of the appropriate entity.

(b) Requests for subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum shall be in writing and shall contain a statement acknowledging that the requesting party agrees to pay all fees for the attendance and travel of witnesses.

(c) A subpoena or subpoena duces tecum issued at the request of an entity shall be served by the party at least five days before the return date, either by personal service by a person over 18 years of age or by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. If service is by mail,

the five-day notice period shall not begin until the date the person or entity receives the subpoena or subpoena duces tecum.

(d) Fees for the attendance of witnesses are the same as for witnesses before the circuit court of this State and shall be paid by the party requesting the issuance of the subpoena or subpoena duces tecum.

(e) In any case of disobedience or neglect of any subpoena or subpoena duces tecum, or any refusal of a witness to testify to any matter regarding which he or she may be lawfully interrogated, the issuing entity may apply to the Circuit Court of Kanawha County, and the court shall compel obedience through the same manner as a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum is enforced in Kanawha County Circuit Court.";

And,

On page 297, section 6, line 2, by striking, "Department of Human Services" and inserting in lieu thereof, "Department of Health Facilities";

And,

On page 297, section 6, lines 20-21, by striking, "Department of Health and Human Resources" and inserting in lieu thereof, "Department of Health Facilities";

And,

On page 298, by striking the section heading for, §27-9-1, and inserting a new section heading to read as follows: "§27-9-1. License; regulations.";

And,

On page 300, section 3, line 10, by striking the word, "secretary" and inserting the words, "Inspector General";

And,

By striking out the title and substituting therefor a new title, to read as follows:

**Eng. Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 300**—A Bill to repeal §5-11-1, §5-11-2, §5-11-3, §5-11-4, §5-11-5, §5-11-6, §5-11-7, §5-11-8, §5-11-9, §5-11-9a, §5-11-10, §5-11-11, §5-11-12, §5-11-13, §5-11-14, §5-11-15, §5-11-16, §5-11-17, §5-11-18, §5-11-19, and §5-11-20 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; to repeal §5-11A-1, §5-11A-2, §5-11A-3, §5-11A-3a, §5-11A-4, §5-11A-5, §5-11A-6, §5-11A-7, §5-11A-8, §5-11A-9, §5-11A-10, §5-11A-11, §5-11A-12, §5-11A-13, §5-11A-14, §5-11A-15, §5-11A-16, §5-11A-17, §5-11A-18, §5-11A-19, and §5-11A-20 of said code; to repeal §5-11B-1, §5-11B-2, §5-11B-3, §5-11B-4, §5-11B-5, §5-11B-6, and §5-11B-7 of said code; to amend and reenact §5F-2-1a of said code; to amend and reenact §9-5-27 of said code; to repeal §16-1-22, §16-1-22a, §16-1-22b, and §16-1-22c of said code; to repeal §16-2E-1, §16-2E-2, §16-2E-3, §16-2E-4, and §16-2E-5 of said code; to repeal §16-2N-1, §16-2N-2, and §16-2N-3 of said code; to repeal §16-5B-1, §16-5B-2, §16-5B-3, §16-5B-4, §16-5B-5, §16-5B-5a, §16-5B-6, §16-5B-7, §16-5B-8, §16-5B-9, §16-5B-10, §16-5B-11, §16-5B-12, §16-5B-13, §16-5B-14, §16-5B-15, §16-5B-16, §16-5B-17, §16-5B-18, §16-5B-19, and §16-5B-20 of said code; to repeal §16-5C-1, §16-5C-2, §16-5C-3, §16-5C-4, §16-5C-5, §16-5C-6, §16-5C-7, §16-5C-8, §16-

5C-9, §16-5C-9a, §16-5C-10, §16-5C-11, §16-5C-12, §16-5C-12a, §16-5C-13, §16-5C-14, §16-5C-15, §16-5C-18, §16-5C-19, §16-5C-20, §16-5C-21, and §16-5C-22 of said code; to repeal §16-5D-1, §16-5D-2, §16-5D-3, §16-5D-4, §16-5D-5, §16-5D-6, §16-5D-7, §16-5D-8, §16-5D-9, §16-5D-10, §16-5D-11, §16-5D-12, §16-5D-13, §16-5D-14, §16-5D-15, and §16-5D-18 of said code; to repeal §16-5E-1, §16-5E-1a, §16-5E-2, §16-5E-3, §16-5E-3a, §16-5E-4, §16-5E-5, and §16-5E-6 of said code; to repeal §16-5H-1, §16-5H-2, §16-5H-3, §16-5H-4, §16-5H-5, §16-5H-6, §16-5H-7, §16-5H-8, §16-5H-9, and §16-5H-10 of said code; to repeal §16-5I-1, §16-5I-2, §16-5I-3, §16-5I-4, §16-5I-5, and §16-5I-6 of said code; to repeal §16-5N-1, §16-5N-2, §16-5N-3, §16-5N-4, §16-5N-5, §16-5N-6, §16-5N-7, §16-5N-8, §16-5N-9, §16-5N-10, §16-5N-11, §16-5N-12, §16-5N-13, §16-5N-14, §16-5N-15, and §16-5N-16 of said code; to repeal §16-5O-1, §16-5O-2, §16-5O-3, §16-5O-4, §16-5O-5, §16-5O-6, §16-5O-7, §16-5O-8, §16-5O-9, §16-5O-10, §16-5O-11, and §16-5O-12 of said code; to repeal §16-5R-1, §16-5R-2, §16-5R-3, §16-5R-4, §16-5R-5, §16-5R-6, and §16-5R-7 of said code; to repeal §16-5W-1, §16-5W-2, §16-5W-3, and §16-5W-4 of said code; to repeal §16-5Y-1, §16-5Y-2, §16-5Y-3, §16-5Y-4, §16-5Y-5, §16-5Y-6, §16-5Y-7, §16-5Y-8, §16-5Y-9, §16-5Y-10, §16-5Y-11, §16-5Y-12, and §16-5Y-13 of said code; to repeal §16-5AA-1, §16-5AA-2, §16-5AA-3, §16-5AA-4, §16-5AA-5, §16-5AA-6, §16-5AA-7, §16-5AA-8, §16-5AA-9, and §16-5AA-10 of said code; to repeal §16-49-1, §16-49-2, §16-49-3, §16-49-4, §16-49-5, §16-49-6, §16-49-7, §16-49-8, and §16-49-9 of said code; to amend said code by adding thereto a new chapter, designated §16B-1-1, §16B-2-1, §16B-2-2, §16B-2-3, §16B-2-4, §16B-3-1, §16B-3-2, §16B-3-3, §16B-3-4, §16B-3-5, §16B-3-5a, §16B-3-6, §16B-3-7, §16B-3-8, §16B-3-9, §16B-3-10, §16B-3-11, §16B-3-12, §16B-3-13, §16B-3-14, §16B-3-15, §16B-3-16, §16B-3-17, §16B-3-18, §16B-3-19, §16B-3-20, §16B-4-1, §16B-4-2, §16B-4-3, §16B-4-4, §16B-4-5, §16B-4-6, §16B-4-7, §16B-4-8, §16B-4-9, §16B-4-9a, §16B-4-10, §16B-4-11, §16B-4-12, §16B-4-12a, §16B-4-13, §16B-4-14, §16B-4-15, §16B-4-18, §16B-4-19, §16B-4-20, §16B-4-21, §16B-4-22, §16B-5-1, §16B-5-2, §16B-5-3, §16B-5-4, §16B-5-5, §16B-5-6, §16B-5-7, §16B-5-8, §16B-5-9, §16B-5-10, §16B-5-11, §16B-5-12, §16B-5-13, §16B-5-14, §16B-5-15, §16B-5-18, §16B-6-1, §16B-6-1a, §16B-6-2, §16B-6-3, §16B-6-3a, §16B-6-4, §16B-6-5, §16B-6-6, §16B-7-1, §16B-7-2, §16B-7-3, §16B-7-4, §16B-7-5, §16B-7-6, §16B-7-7, §16B-7-8, §16B-7-9, §16B-7-10, §16B-8-1, §16B-8-2, §16B-8-3, §16B-8-4, §16B-8-5, §16B-8-6, §16B-9-1, §16B-9-2, §16B-9-3, §16B-9-4, §16B-9-5, §16B-9-6, §16B-9-7, §16B-9-8, §16B-9-9, §16B-9-10, §16B-9-11, §16B-9-12, §16B-9-13, §16B-9-14, §16B-9-15, §16B-9-16, §16B-10-1, §16B-10-2, §16B-10-3, §16B-10-4, §16B-10-5, §16B-10-6, §16B-10-7, §16B-10-8, §16B-10-9, §16B-10-10, §16B-10-11, §16B-10-12, §16B-11-1, §16B-11-2, §16B-11-3, §16B-11-4, §16B-11-5, §16B-11-6, §16B-11-7, §16B-12-1, §16B-12-2, §16B-12-3, §16B-13-1, §16B-13-2, §16B-13-3, §16B-13-4, §16B-13-5, §16B-13-6, §16B-13-7, §16B-13-8, §16B-13-9, §16B-13-10, §16B-13-11, §16B-13-12, §16B-13-13, §16B-14-1, §16B-14-2, §16B-14-3, §16B-14-4, §16B-14-5, §16B-14-6, §16B-14-7, §16B-14-8, §16B-14-9, §16B-14-10, §16B-15-1, §16B-15-2, §16B-15-3, §16B-15-4, §16B-15-5, §16B-15-6, §16B-15-7, §16B-15-8, §16B-15-9, §16B-16-1, §16B-16-2, §16B-16-3, §16B-16-4, §16B-16-5, §16B-16-6, §16B-16-7, §16B-16-8, §16B-16-9, §16B-16-10, §16B-17-1, §16B-17-2, §16B-17-3, §16B-17-4, §16B-17-5, §16B-17-6, §16B-17-7, §16B-17-8, §16B-17-9, §16B-17-9a, §16B-17-10, §16B-17-11, §16B-17-12, §16B-17-13, §16B-17-14, §16B-17-15, §16B-17-16, §16B-17-17, §16B-17-18, §16B-17-19, §16B-17-20, §16B-18-1, §16B-18-2, §16B-18-3, §16B-18-3a, §16B-18-4, §16B-18-5, §16B-18-6, §16B-18-7, §16B-18-8, §16B-18-9, §16B-18-10, §16B-18-11, §16B-18-12, §16B-18-13, §16B-18-14, §16B-18-15, §16B-18-16, §16B-18-17, §16B-18-18, §16B-18-19, §16B-18-20, §16B-19-1, §16B-19-2, §16B-19-3, §16B-19-4, §16B-19-5, §16B-19-6, §16B-19-7, §16B-20-1, §16B-20-2, §16B-20-3, §16B-20-4, §16B-20-5, §16B-21-1, §16B-21-2, and §16B-21-3; to amend and reenact §25-1B-7 of said code; to amend and reenact §27-1-9 of said code; to amend and reenact §27-1A-6 and §27-1A-7 of said code; to amend and reenact §27-9-1 and §27-9-2 of said code; to amend and reenact §27-17-1 and §27-17-3 of said code; to amend and reenact §49-1-203 of said code; and to repeal §49-9-101, §49-9-102, §49-9-103, §49-9-104, §49-9-105, §49-9-106, §49-9-107, §49-9-108, §49-9-109, and §49-9-110 of said code, all relating to the



organization of the Office of the Inspector General; moving related units, programs, and commissions that are affiliated with the Office of the Inspector General into the same chapter; setting forth findings; setting forth duties and powers; providing for rulemaking authority; setting forth qualifications for directors; requiring directors to be appointed by a certain date; and making technical and stylistic changes.

On motion of Senator Takubo, the following amendment to the House of Delegates amendments to the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 300) was reported by the Clerk and adopted:

By striking out the title and substituting therefor a new title, to read as follows:

**Eng. Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 300**—A Bill to repeal §5-11-1, §5-11-2, §5-11-3, §5-11-4, §5-11-5, §5-11-6, §5-11-7, §5-11-8, §5-11-9, §5-11-9a, §5-11-10, §5-11-11, §5-11-12, §5-11-13, §5-11-14, §5-11-15, §5-11-16, §5-11-17, §5-11-18, §5-11-19, and §5-11-20 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; to repeal §5-11A-1, §5-11A-2, §5-11A-3, §5-11A-3a, §5-11A-4, §5-11A-5, §5-11A-6, §5-11A-7, §5-11A-8, §5-11A-9, §5-11A-10, §5-11A-11, §5-11A-12, §5-11A-13, §5-11A-14, §5-11A-15, §5-11A-16, §5-11A-17, §5-11A-18, §5-11A-19, and §5-11A-20 of said code; to repeal §5-11B-1, §5-11B-2, §5-11B-3, §5-11B-4, §5-11B-5, §5-11B-6, and §5-11B-7 of said code; to amend and reenact §5F-2-1a of said code; to amend and reenact §9-5-27 of said code; to repeal §16-1-22, §16-1-22a, §16-1-22b, and §16-1-22c of said code; to repeal §16-2E-1, §16-2E-2, §16-2E-3, §16-2E-4, and §16-2E-5 of said code; to repeal §16-2N-1, §16-2N-2, and §16-2N-3 of said code; to repeal §16-5B-1, §16-5B-2, §16-5B-3, §16-5B-4, §16-5B-5, §16-5B-5a, §16-5B-6, §16-5B-7, §16-5B-8, §16-5B-9, §16-5B-10, §16-5B-11, §16-5B-12, §16-5B-13, §16-5B-14, §16-5B-15, §16-5B-16, §16-5B-17, §16-5B-18, §16-5B-19, and §16-5B-20 of said code; to repeal §16-5C-1, §16-5C-2, §16-5C-3, §16-5C-4, §16-5C-5, §16-5C-6, §16-5C-7, §16-5C-8, §16-5C-9, §16-5C-9a, §16-5C-10, §16-5C-11, §16-5C-12, §16-5C-12a, §16-5C-13, §16-5C-14, §16-5C-15, §16-5C-18, §16-5C-19, §16-5C-20, §16-5C-21, and §16-5C-22 of said code; to repeal §16-5D-1, §16-5D-2, §16-5D-3, §16-5D-4, §16-5D-5, §16-5D-6, §16-5D-7, §16-5D-8, §16-5D-9, §16-5D-10, §16-5D-11, §16-5D-12, §16-5D-13, §16-5D-14, §16-5D-15, and §16-5D-18 of said code; to repeal §16-5E-1, §16-5E-1a, §16-5E-2, §16-5E-3, §16-5E-3a, §16-5E-4, §16-5E-5, and §16-5E-6 of said code; to repeal §16-5H-1, §16-5H-2, §16-5H-3, §16-5H-4, §16-5H-5, §16-5H-6, §16-5H-7, §16-5H-8, §16-5H-9, and §16-5H-10 of said code; to repeal §16-5I-1, §16-5I-2, §16-5I-3, §16-5I-4, §16-5I-5, and §16-5I-6 of said code; to repeal §16-5N-1, §16-5N-2, §16-5N-3, §16-5N-4, §16-5N-5, §16-5N-6, §16-5N-7, §16-5N-8, §16-5N-9, §16-5N-10, §16-5N-11, §16-5N-12, §16-5N-13, §16-5N-14, §16-5N-15, and §16-5N-16 of said code; to repeal §16-5O-1, §16-5O-2, §16-5O-3, §16-5O-4, §16-5O-5, §16-5O-6, §16-5O-7, §16-5O-8, §16-5O-9, §16-5O-10, §16-5O-11, and §16-5O-12 of said code; to repeal §16-5R-1, §16-5R-2, §16-5R-3, §16-5R-4, §16-5R-5, §16-5R-6, and §16-5R-7 of said code; to repeal §16-5W-1, §16-5W-2, §16-5W-3, and §16-5W-4 of said code; to repeal §16-5Y-1, §16-5Y-2, §16-5Y-3, §16-5Y-4, §16-5Y-5, §16-5Y-6, §16-5Y-7, §16-5Y-8, §16-5Y-9, §16-5Y-10, §16-5Y-11, §16-5Y-12, and §16-5Y-13 of said code; to repeal §16-5AA-1, §16-5AA-2, §16-5AA-3, §16-5AA-4, §16-5AA-5, §16-5AA-6, §16-5AA-7, §16-5AA-8, §16-5AA-9, and §16-5AA-10 of said code; to repeal §16-49-1, §16-49-2, §16-49-3, §16-49-4, §16-49-5, §16-49-6, §16-49-7, §16-49-8, and §16-49-9 of said code; to amend said code by adding thereto a new chapter, designated §16B-1-1, §16B-2-1, §16B-2-2, §16B-2-3, §16B-2-4, §16B-3-1, §16B-3-2, §16B-3-3, §16B-3-4, §16B-3-5, §16B-3-5a, §16B-3-6, §16B-3-7, §16B-3-8, §16B-3-9, §16B-3-10, §16B-3-11, §16B-3-12, §16B-3-13, §16B-3-14, §16B-3-15, §16B-3-16, §16B-3-17, §16B-3-18, §16B-3-19, §16B-3-20, §16B-4-1, §16B-4-2, §16B-4-3, §16B-4-4, §16B-4-5, §16B-4-6, §16B-4-7, §16B-4-8, §16B-4-9, §16B-4-9a, §16B-4-10, §16B-4-11, §16B-4-12, §16B-4-12a, §16B-4-13, §16B-4-14, §16B-4-15, §16B-4-16, §16B-4-17, §16B-4-18, §16B-4-19, §16B-4-20, §16B-5-1, §16B-5-2, §16B-5-3, §16B-5-4, §16B-5-5, §16B-5-6, §16B-5-7, §16B-5-8, §16B-5-9, §16B-5-10, §16B-5-11, §16B-5-12, §16B-5-13, §16B-5-14, §16B-5-15, §16B-5-16, §16B-6-1,

§16B-6-1a, §16B-6-2, §16B-6-3, §16B-6-3a, §16B-6-4, §16B-6-5, §16B-6-6, §16B-7-1, §16B-7-2, §16B-7-3, §16B-7-4, §16B-7-5, §16B-7-6, §16B-7-7, §16B-7-8, §16B-7-9, §16B-7-10, §16B-8-1, §16B-8-2, §16B-8-3, §16B-8-4, §16B-8-5, §16B-8-6, §16B-9-1, §16B-9-2, §16B-9-3, §16B-9-4, §16B-9-5, §16B-9-6, §16B-9-7, §16B-9-8, §16B-9-9, §16B-9-10, §16B-9-11, §16B-9-12, §16B-9-13, §16B-9-14, §16B-9-15, §16B-9-16, §16B-10-1, §16B-10-2, §16B-10-3, §16B-10-4, §16B-10-5, §16B-10-6, §16B-10-7, §16B-10-8, §16B-10-9, §16B-10-10, §16B-10-11, §16B-10-12, §16B-11-1, §16B-11-2, §16B-11-3, §16B-11-4, §16B-11-5, §16B-11-6, §16B-11-7, §16B-12-1, §16B-12-2, §16B-12-3, §16B-13-1, §16B-13-2, §16B-13-3, §16B-13-4, §16B-13-5, §16B-13-6, §16B-13-7, §16B-13-8, §16B-13-9, §16B-13-10, §16B-13-11, §16B-13-12, §16B-13-13, §16B-14-1, §16B-14-2, §16B-14-3, §16B-14-4, §16B-14-5, §16B-14-6, §16B-14-7, §16B-14-8, §16B-14-9, §16B-14-10, §16B-15-1, §16B-15-2, §16B-15-3, §16B-15-4, §16B-15-5, §16B-15-6, §16B-15-7, §16B-15-8, §16B-15-9, §16B-16-1, §16B-16-2, §16B-16-3, §16B-16-4, §16B-16-5, §16B-16-6, §16B-16-7, §16B-16-8, §16B-16-9, §16B-16-10, §16B-17-1, §16B-17-2, §16B-17-3, §16B-17-4, §16B-17-5, §16B-17-6, §16B-17-7, §16B-17-8, §16B-17-9, §16B-17-9a, §16B-17-10, §16B-17-11, §16B-17-12, §16B-17-13, §16B-17-14, §16B-17-15, §16B-17-16, §16B-17-17, §16B-17-18, §16B-17-19, §16B-17-20, §16B-18-1, §16B-18-2, §16B-18-3, §16B-18-3a, §16B-18-4, §16B-18-5, §16B-18-6, §16B-18-7, §16B-18-8, §16B-18-9, §16B-18-10, §16B-18-11, §16B-18-12, §16B-18-13, §16B-18-14, §16B-18-15, §16B-18-16, §16B-18-17, §16B-18-18, §16B-18-19, §16B-18-20, §16B-19-1, §16B-19-2, §16B-19-3, §16B-19-4, §16B-19-5, §16B-19-6, §16B-19-7, §16B-20-1, §16B-20-2, §16B-20-3, §16B-20-4, §16B-20-5, §16B-21-1, §16B-21-2, and §16B-21-3; to amend and reenact §25-1B-7 of said code; to amend and reenact §27-1-9 of said code; to amend and reenact §27-1A-6 and §27-1A-7 of said code; to amend and reenact §27-9-1 and §27-9-2 of said code; to amend and reenact §27-17-1 and §27-17-3 of said code; to amend and reenact §49-1-203 of said code; and to repeal §49-9-101, §49-9-102, §49-9-103, §49-9-104, §49-9-105, §49-9-106, §49-9-107, §49-9-108, §49-9-109, and §49-9-110 of said code, all relating to the organization of the Office of the Inspector General; moving related units, programs, and commissions that are affiliated with the Office of Inspector General into the same chapter; setting for findings; setting forth duties and powers; providing for rulemaking authority; setting forth qualifications for directors; requiring directors to be appointed by a certain date; and making technical and stylistic changes.

On motion of Senator Takubo, the Senate concurred in the House of Delegates amendments, as amended.

Engrossed Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 300, as amended, was then put upon its passage.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barrett, Boley, Caputo, Chapman, Deeds, Grady, Hamilton, Hunt, Jeffries, Karnes, Maroney, Martin, Maynard, Nelson, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rucker, Smith, Stuart, Swope, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Trump, Weld, Woelfel, Woodrum, and Blair (Mr. President)—31.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Clements, Plymale, and Stover—3.

So, a majority of all the members elected to the Senate having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 300) passed with its Senate amended title.

Senator Takubo moved that the bill take effect from passage.

On this question, the yeas were: Azinger, Barrett, Boley, Caputo, Chapman, Deeds, Grady, Hamilton, Hunt, Jeffries, Karnes, Maroney, Martin, Maynard, Nelson, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rucker, Smith, Stuart, Swope, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Trump, Weld, Woelfel, Woodrum, and Blair (Mr. President)—31.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Clements, Plymale, and Stover—3.

So, two thirds of all the members elected to the Senate having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 300) takes effect from passage.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk communicate to the House of Delegates the action of the Senate and request concurrence therein.

A message from the Clerk of the House of Delegates announced the concurrence by that body in the adoption of

**Senate Concurrent Resolution 24**, Recognizing First Responders Honor Board's nominees for Medal of Valor.

A message from the Clerk of the House of Delegates announced the passage by that body and requested the concurrence of the Senate in the passage of

**Eng. Com. Sub. for House Bill 4940**—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; by adding thereto a new section, designated as §37-6-31; and to amend said Code by adding thereto a new article, designated as §55-3C-1, §55-3C-2, and §55-3C-3; all relating to squatting and the remedies therefor; defining a term; clarifying that squatting is a wrongful occupation of property; excluding squatting from the provisions of certain sections of Code; providing that petition and eviction are not appropriate remedies to remove squatters from property; defining terms; noting that squatting is the same as trespass; providing that squatters are not tenants; clarifying that the remedy for squatting is arresting the trespassing squatter for the crime of trespass; and providing that petition and eviction are not appropriate remedies to remove squatters from property.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A message from the Clerk of the House of Delegates announced the passage by that body and requested the concurrence of the Senate in the passage of

**Eng. Com. Sub. for House Bill 5084**—A Bill to amend and reenact §16-9A-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, all relating to requiring that a valid driver's license, state identification card, or any valid and unexpired federally issued identification card such as a passport or military identification card be presented to verify the minimum age of eighteen for the purchase or acceptance of tobacco related products; relating to increasing penalties for any firm or corporation, or business entity that violates the provisions of this section of the code; and relating to increasing penalties for any person, or employee of any firm or corporation, or business entity that violates the provisions of this section of the code.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A message from the Clerk of the House of Delegates announced the passage by that body and requested the concurrence of the Senate in the passage of

**Eng. Com. Sub. for House Bill 5091**—A Bill to amend and reenact §61-10-34 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the "West Virginia Critical Infrastructure Protection Act"; removing the requirement that a critical infrastructure facility be enclosed by a fence or other physical barrier or be clearly marked with a sign or signs; increasing felony penalties and adding second offense penalties for a person who willfully damages, destroys, vandalizes, defaces, or tampers with equipment in a critical infrastructure facility causing damage in excess of \$2,500; providing for forfeiture of items of personal property which are used, have been used, or are intended for use in perpetration of theft or damage to infrastructure, including all conveyances, including aircraft, vehicles or vessels; and providing that the forfeiture provisions of this bill be governed by the applicable provisions of the West Virginia Contraband Forfeiture Act.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A message from the Clerk of the House of Delegates announced the passage by that body and requested the concurrence of the Senate in the passage of

**Eng. House Bill 5257**—A Bill to amend and reenact §50-1-8, §50-1-9, and §50-1-9a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to amend and reenact §51-2A-6 of said code, all relating generally to allowing the Supreme Court of Appeals discretion to create uniform pay scales for all levels of judicial support staff.

Referred to the Committee on Government Organization.

A message from the Clerk of the House of Delegates announced the passage by that body and requested the concurrence of the Senate in the passage of

**Eng. House Bill 5348**—A Bill to amend and reenact section two, chapter 136, Acts of the Legislature, regular session, 1982, as last amended and reenacted by section two, chapter 136, Acts of the Legislature, regular session, 1987, relating to renaming the Raleigh County Recreation Authority to the Raleigh County Parks and Recreation Authority.

Referred to the Committee on Government Organization.

A message from the Clerk of the House of Delegates announced the adoption by that body and requested the concurrence of the Senate in the adoption of

**Eng. House Joint Resolution 21**—Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of West Virginia amending section 1, Article IV thereof to prohibit persons not United States citizens from voting in any election held within this state; numbering and designating such proposed amendment; and providing a summarized statement of the purpose of such proposed amendment.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary; and then to the Committee on Finance.

The Senate proceeded to the fourth order of business.

Senator Blair (Mr. President), from the Committee on Rules, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Rules has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 306**, Equipment Right to Repair Act.

And reports the same back without recommendation as to passage; but with the recommendation that it first be rereferred to the Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Blair,  
*Chair ex officio.*

At the request of Senator Takubo, unanimous consent being granted, the bill (S. B. 306) contained in the foregoing report from the Committee on Rules was then rereferred to the Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Senator Tarr, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Finance has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 351**, Expanding the definition of "small arms" for purposes of taxation.

And reports the same back with the recommendation that it do pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric J. Tarr,  
*Chair.*

Senator Maroney, from the Committee on Health and Human Resources, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Health and Human Resources has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 378**, Prohibiting smoking in vehicle when minor 16 or under is present.

And reports the same back with the recommendation that it do pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Maroney,  
*Chair.*

Senator Woodrum, from the Committee on Government Organization, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Government Organization has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 472**, Requiring hotels and public lodging establishments to provide human trafficking awareness training for employees.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 472** (originating in the Committee on Government Organization)—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §16-6-26, relating to requiring hotels and public lodging establishments to provide human trafficking awareness training to employees; mandating annual training; establishing reporting procedures; requiring local board of health approval of training program; establishing penalties; providing that no private cause of action is created; and authorizing rulemaking.

And,

**Senate Bill 522**, Changing procedure for citations issued by county litter control officer.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 522** (originating in the Committee on Government Organization)—A Bill to amend and reenact §7-1-3ff of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the procedure for evidentiary hearings on citations issued by county commissions to regulate unsafe or unsanitary structures.

With the recommendation that the two committee substitutes do pass; but under the original double committee references first be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack David Woodrum,  
*Chair.*

The bills (Com. Sub. for S. B. 472 and 522), under the original double committee references, were then referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Senator Maroney, from the Committee on Health and Human Resources, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Health and Human Resources has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 514**, Lung Cancer Prevention and Education Act.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 514** (originating in the Committee on Health and Human Resources)—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §16-67-1, §16-67-2, §16-67-3, §16-67-4, §16-67-5, §16-67-6, §16-67-7, §16-67-8, §16-67-9, §16-67-10, and §16-67-11, all relating to lung cancer prevention and education; defining terms; establishing a lung cancer and education program within the Bureau for Public Health; allowing for grants to be issued to approved organizations; setting forth grant criteria; setting forth procedure and eligibility for grants; requiring annual reporting; establishing a fund; setting forth financial eligibility; setting forth medical eligibility; setting forth the reimbursement process; setting forth a rate for the screening service; and requiring the Department of Health to administer an education campaign.

And,

**Senate Bill 572**, Creating Forensic Pathology Recruitment Program.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 572** (originating in the Committee on Health and Human Resources)—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §16-5EE-1, §16-5EE-2, §16-5EE-3, §16-5EE-4, §16-5EE-5, §16-5EE-6, §16-5EE-7, §16-5EE-8, and §16-5EE-9, all relating to recruitment of forensic pathologists; setting forth purpose; defining terms; setting forth eligibility criteria; setting forth required loan repayment documents and procedure; designating the Department of Health to administer the program; setting forth award requirements and procedure; creating a fund; requiring rulemaking; and setting forth minimum salary.

With the recommendation that the two committee substitutes do pass; but under the original double committee references first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Maroney,  
*Chair.*

The bills (Com. Sub. for S. B. 514 and 572), under the original double committee references, were then referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senator Woodrum, from the Committee on Government Organization, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Government Organization has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 542**, Amending procedure for filling vacancies in county offices having more than three commissioners.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 542** (originating in the Committee on Government Organization)—A Bill to amend and reenact §3-10-7 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to amending procedure for filling vacancy in offices of county clerk or county commissioner or council person for commissions or councils having more than three commissioners or council persons.

And,

**Senate Bill 587**, Enabling State Fire Commission to propose legislative rules.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 587** (originating in the Committee on Government Organization)—A Bill to amend and reenact §15A-11-8 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to enabling the State Fire Commission to propose legislative rules and promulgate interpretive and procedural rules for legislative approval.

With the recommendation that the two committee substitutes do pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack David Woodrum,  
*Chair.*

Senator Trump, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on the Judiciary has had under consideration

**Senate Bill 590**, Creating Local Government Labor Regulatory Limitation Act.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 590** (originating in the Committee on the Judiciary)—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §1-8-1, §1-8-2, §1-8-3, and §1-8-4, all relating to expressly prohibiting political subdivisions from requiring private employers to pay employees a wage higher than that set by applicable state or federal law, establishing a locally based wage or employee benefit rate, or establishing work hours or scheduling requirements; defining terms; creating exceptions; voiding any prior actions of political subdivisions enacted prior to the effective date of this article; clarifying that the provisions of the article are inapplicable to the employees of a political subdivision; clarifying that nothing in the article prohibits political subdivisions from enforcing agreements voluntarily entered into by the parties prior to the effective date of this article; and clarifying that provisions of the article do not limit the ability of the political subdivisions to comply with statutes and policies related to drug and alcohol testing.

And,

**Senate Bill 616**, Modifying definition of family subject to provisions of domestic violence laws.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 616** (originating in the Committee on the Judiciary)—A Bill to amend and reenact §48-27-204 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the definition of "family or household members" for purposes of prevention and treatment of domestic violence; adding brother-in-law and sister-in-law to the definition of "family or household members" subject to domestic violence laws.

With the recommendation that the two committee substitutes do pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles S. Trump IV,  
*Chair.*

Senator Grady, from the Committee on Education, submitted the following report, which was received:

Your Committee on Education has had under consideration



**Senate Bill 614**, Specifying requirements for appropriate elementary behavior intervention and safety.

And reports back a committee substitute for same with the following title:

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 614** (originating in the Committee on Education)—A Bill to amend and reenact §18A-5-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to elementary behavior intervention and safety; clarifying that nothing herein may be construed to conflict with certain federal laws; and specifying requirements applicable to when a grade kindergarten through six teacher in an elementary setting determines that the behavior of a student is violent, threatening, or intimidating toward staff or peers, or creates an unsafe learning environment, or impedes on other students' ability to learn in a safe environment.

With the recommendation that the committee substitute do pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy N. Grady,  
*Chair.*

The Senate proceeded to the sixth order of business.

On motions for leave, severally made, the following bills were introduced, read by their titles, and referred to the appropriate committees:

**By Senator Weld:**

**Senate Bill 681**—A Bill to amend and reenact §15-1B-21 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the service obligation for tuition and fees for a doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathic medicine degree program.

Referred to the Committee on Military.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 682**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of federal funds out of the Treasury from the balance of federal moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Department of Agriculture, fund 8736, fiscal year 2024, organization 1400, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senator Tarr:**

**Senate Bill 683**—A Bill to amend and reenact §11-14C-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the motor fuel excise tax; and modifying defined terms.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senator Tarr:**

**Senate Bill 684**—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §9-5-34, relating to required contract terms for managed care contracts with the Bureau for Medical Services; setting the medical loss ratio for managed care

organizations contracting with the Bureau for Medical Services; establishing rebates; setting an effective date; and requiring contract change orders in certain circumstances.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senator Nelson:**

**Senate Bill 685**—A Bill to amend and reenact §29-12-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the creation, composition, qualifications, and compensation of the State Board of Risk and Insurance Management; continuing the board; providing for voting membership of the board; providing qualifications of citizen members; providing procedures for appointment of citizen members; providing initial appointment terms of citizen members; providing terms of subsequent appointment of citizen members; providing procedures for vacancy, expiration of term, and removal of citizen members; providing end date for term of citizen members appointed prior to the effective date of the reenactment of this section; authorizing reappointment of any qualified citizen member appointed prior to the effective date of the reenactment; providing that Insurance Commissioner shall serve as non-voting board secretary; and providing for compensation of board members.

Referred to the Committee on Banking and Insurance.

**By Senator Azinger:**

**Senate Bill 686**—A Bill to amend and reenact §29-12-5 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to actions for damages or attorney's fees in cases involving Board of Risk and Insurance Management; clarifying that no action for damages or attorney's fees under *Shamblin v. Nationwide Mut. Ins. Co.*, 183 W. Va. 585 (1990) shall be awardable or cognizable against the board or any person employed by the board or any entity with which the board has contracted to administer the board's programs; and providing for retrospective application to all pending claims and actions.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senator Woodrum:**

**Senate Bill 687**—A Bill to amend and reenact §4-2-3, §4-2-4, §4-2-6, and §4-2-8 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; to repeal §4-2-5 of said code; to amend and reenact §4-3-3c of said code; to amend and reenact §4-10-3, §4-10-6, §4-10-7, §4-10-9, and §4-10-10 of said code; and to repeal §4-10-8 of said code, all relating to the Legislative Auditor; establishing that auditor is responsible to Joint Committee on Government and Finance; clarifying that auditor may exercise powers at direction of Senate President or Speaker of the House of Delegates; restating authority of auditor to inspect properties, equipment, and records; providing for distribution of copies of reports of examination and audit; prohibiting auditor from using external auditing entities to conduct audits except as directed by Senate President or Speaker; modifying obligations of auditor regarding budgetary matters; providing that committee has authority to hire employees to assist auditor in performance of obligations; clarifying hiring authority of committee; providing that auditor's reviews of departments and agencies are to be conducted at direction of Senate President or Speaker and that department presentations are to be made at Senate President's or Speaker's direction; eliminating requirement that agency and regulatory board reviews be conducted according to certain auditing standards; revising schedule of regulatory board reviews; and providing that regulatory board reviews may be conducted more frequently than statutorily scheduled.

Referred to the Committee on Government Organization.

**By Senators Woodrum, Smith, and Swope:**

**Senate Bill 688**—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §20-3-4a, relating to authorizing the Director of the Division of Forestry to contract for the management of state-owned and leased forests and wooded lands for purposes of preventing forest fires; providing for procedures and requirements to enter into land management contract; establishing competitive bidding process; and authorizing the director to directly award a contract under certain circumstances when necessary for an economic development project.

Referred to the Committee on Economic Development.

**By Senator Woodrum:**

**Senate Bill 689**—A Bill to amend and reenact §17A-3-17 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to adding a 50-cent service fee to the registration or renewal of certain classes of automobiles for deposit into the West Virginia Deputy Sheriff's Retirement Fund.

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; and then to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Rucker, Barrett, Chapman, Clements, Deeds, Hamilton, Hunt, Karnes, Martin, Queen, Roberts, Smith, Stuart, and Taylor:**

**Senate Bill 690**—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §29-37-1, relating to creating a commission on West Virginia Agritourism; appointment; terms; powers; and duties.

Referred to the Committee on Economic Development.

**By Senator Barrett:**

**Senate Bill 691**—A Bill to amend and reenact §17C-16-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to revising the statute to make it permissive for commercial motor vehicles registered in this state to pass an annual inspection of all safety equipment to be consistent with the federal motor carrier safety regulations; and defining the term "commercial motor vehicle".

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

**By Senator Barrett:**

**Senate Bill 692**—A Bill to amend and reenact §15-2A-21 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to using accrued leave to acquire additional credited service toward retirement; clarifying that a leave day equals eight hours leave; and granting members entering retirement system after July 1, 2015, the option to use leave days to acquire additional service for retirement.

Referred to the Committee on Pensions; and then to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senator Grady:**

**Senate Bill 693**—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §16-67-1, §16-67-2, §16-67-3, §16-67-4, and §16-67-5, all relating to a chronic weight management task force; stating purpose of task force; setting forth task force composition; setting forth task force duties; setting forth termination date; setting forth reporting; stating Secretary of Department of Health has discretion to provide administrative

support for task force; and requiring specified administrative agencies to cooperate with task force.

Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Resources.

**By Senator Barrett:**

**Senate Bill 694**—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new chapter, designated §31J-1-1, §31J-1-2, §31J-1-3, §31J-2-1, §31J-3-1, and §31J-3-2, all relating to land use associations; providing title; defining terms; establishing construction of chapter; providing statement of purpose; mandating registration of land use associations with Secretary of State; setting fee for registration; and describing content of registration form.

Referred to the Committee on Government Organization.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 695**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of federal funds out of the Treasury from the balance of federal moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Division of Human Services – Energy Assistance, fund 8755, fiscal year 2024, organization 0511, to the Division of Human Services – Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, fund 8816, fiscal year 2024, organization 0511, and to the Division of Human Services – Child Care and Development, fund 8817, fiscal year 2024, organization 0511, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 696**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of federal moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Department of Homeland Security, Division of Emergency Management, fund 8727, fiscal year 2024, organization 0606, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 697**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of federal moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Department of Health and Human Resources, Division of Health – Consolidated Medical Service Fund, fund 8723, fiscal year 2024, organization 0506, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 698**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of federal moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Department of Health and Human Resources, Division of Human Services, fund 8722, fiscal year 2024, organization 0511, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 699**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Department of Health and Human Resources, Division of Human Services – Child Support Enforcement Fund, fund 5094, fiscal year 2024, organization 0511, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 700**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Miscellaneous Boards and Commissions, Hospital Finance Authority – Hospital Finance Authority Fund, fund 5475, fiscal year 2024, organization 0509, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 701**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Department of Education, School Building Authority – School Construction Fund, fund 3952, fiscal year 2024, organization 0404, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 702**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Department of Health and Human Resources, Division of Health – Laboratory Services Fund, fund 5163, fiscal year 2024, organization 0506, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 703**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of federal moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Department of Homeland Security, West Virginia State Police, fund 8741, fiscal year 2024, organization 0612, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 704**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of federal moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to Miscellaneous Boards and Commissions, Public Service Commission – Motor Carrier Division, fund 8743, fiscal year 2024, organization 0926, and Miscellaneous Boards and Commissions, Public Service Commission – Gas Pipeline Division, fund 8744, fiscal year 2024,

organization 0926, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 705**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to Miscellaneous Boards and Commissions, Public Service Commission, fund 8623, fiscal year 2024, organization 0926, Miscellaneous Boards and Commissions, Public Service Commission – Gas Pipeline Division – Public Service Commission Pipeline Safety Fund, fund 8624, fiscal year 2024, organization 0926, and Miscellaneous Boards and Commissions, Public Service Commission – Motor Carrier Division, fund 8625, fiscal year 2024, organization 0926, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 706**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Executive, Department of Agriculture – Agriculture Fees Fund, fund 1401, fiscal year 2024, organization 1400, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 707**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Department of Commerce, Division of Natural Resources – License Fund – Wildlife Resources, fund 3200, fiscal year 2024, organization 0310, and to the Department of Commerce, Division of Natural Resources – Nongame Fund, fund 3203, fiscal year 2024, organization 0310, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 708**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Executive, Department of Agriculture – West Virginia Spay Neuter Assistance Fund, fund 1481, fiscal year 2024, organization 1400, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 709**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of federal moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Department of Arts, Culture, and History, National Coal Heritage Area

Authority, fund 8869, fiscal year 2024, organization 0432, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senators Blair (Mr. President) and Woelfel (By Request of the Executive):**

**Senate Bill 710**—A Bill making a supplementary appropriation of public moneys out of the Treasury from the balance of federal moneys remaining unappropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, to the Department of Education, State Board of Education – Aid for Exceptional Children, fund 8715, fiscal year 2024, organization 0402, by supplementing and amending the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senator Rucker:**

**Senate Bill 711**—A Bill to amend and reenact §15-10-5 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to adding to the list of federal agencies and agents who, under limited circumstances, may enforce state laws.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**By Senators Deeds and Trump:**

**Senate Bill 712**—A Bill to amend and reenact §15-2-7 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to revising the statute to reduce the minimum age for a cadet for the West Virginia State Police from the age of 21 to the age of 18.

Referred to the Committee on Government Organization.

**By Senator Deeds:**

**Senate Bill 713**—A Bill to amend and reenact §17A-3-17 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to renewal of a vehicle registration and a service fee charge for each year of renewal of a Class A or G vehicle registration issued.

Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; and then to the Committee on Finance.

**By Senator Takubo:**

**Senate Bill 714**—A Bill to amend and reenact §30-1D-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; to amend and reenact §30-3-1, §30-3-2, §30-3-4, §30-3-5, §30-3-6, §30-3-7, §30-3-8, §30-3-9, §30-3-10, §30-3-11, §30-3-11a, §30-3-12, §30-3-13, §30-3-13a, §30-3-15, §30-3-16, §30-3-17, and §30-3-18 of said code; to amend said code by adding thereto three new sections, designated §30-3-10b, §30-3-21, and §30-3-22; to repeal §30-3-7a, §30-3-11b, and §30-3-11c, of said code; to amend said code by adding thereto a new article, designated §30-3G-1, §30-3G-2, §30-3G-3, §30-3G-4, §30-3G-5, §30-3G-6, §30-3G-7, §30-3G-8, §30-3G-9, §30-3G-10, §30-3G-11, and §30-3G-12; to amend and reenact §30-14-3 of said code; and to amend said code by adding thereto two new sections, designated §30-14-18 and §30-14-19; all relating to the licensing of physicians and the transition of the duties and functions of the West Virginia Board of Osteopathic Medicine to the West Virginia Board of Medicine effective January 1, 2025; and expanding board authority to regulate genetic counselors.

Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Resources.

**By Senator Takubo:**

**Senate Bill 715**—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §18-2L-1, §18-2L-2, §18-2L-3, and §18-2L-4, all relating to the Stop the Bleed Act; defining terms; establishing requirements for implementation of the act; and addressing funding.

Referred to the Committee on Education.

**By Senator Trump:**

**Senate Bill 716**—A Bill to amend and reenact §48-13-302 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; to amend and reenact §48-17-102 of said code; and to amend and reenact §49-4-801 of said code, all relating to child support generally; reconfiguring the West Virginia Child Support Enforcement Commission; authorizing temporary stay of child support obligation under certain circumstances; clarifying circuit judge's authority to limit child support obligation under certain limited circumstances; and establishing a protocol to assist circuit courts in determining the appropriate child support obligation in child abuse and neglect matters.

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Senator Smith offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution 29**—Designating February 8, 2024, as Tucker County Day at the Legislature.

Which, under the rules, lies over one day.

Senator Takubo offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution 30**—Designating February 8, 2024, as West Virginia Hospital Day at the Legislature.

Which, under the rules, lies over one day.

Senator Takubo offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution 31**—Designating February 8, 2024, as West Virginia American Academy of Pediatrics Child Health Advocacy Day at the Legislature.

Which, under the rules, lies over one day.

The Senate proceeded to the eighth order of business.

**Eng. Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 325**, Relating to distribution of drugs to safety net providers and contract pharmacies.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time and put upon its passage.

Pending discussion,

The question being "Shall Engrossed Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 325 pass?"



On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barrett, Boley, Caputo, Chapman, Deeds, Grady, Hamilton, Hunt, Jeffries, Karnes, Maroney, Martin, Maynard, Nelson, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rucker, Smith, Stuart, Swope, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Trump, Weld, Woelfel, Woodrum, and Blair (Mr. President)—31.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Clements, Plymale, and Stover—3.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for S. B. 325) passed with its title.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk communicate to the House of Delegates the action of the Senate and request concurrence therein.

**Eng. Senate Bill 507**, Relating to repeal of WV EDGE.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time and put upon its passage.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barrett, Boley, Caputo, Chapman, Deeds, Grady, Hamilton, Hunt, Jeffries, Karnes, Maroney, Martin, Maynard, Nelson, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rucker, Smith, Stuart, Swope, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Trump, Weld, Woelfel, Woodrum, and Blair (Mr. President)—31.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Clements, Plymale, and Stover—3.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the bill (Eng. S. B. 507) passed with its title.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk communicate to the House of Delegates the action of the Senate and request concurrence therein.

**Eng. Senate Bill 529**, Including Salem University in PROMISE Scholarship program.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time and put upon its passage.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barrett, Boley, Caputo, Chapman, Deeds, Grady, Hamilton, Hunt, Jeffries, Karnes, Maroney, Martin, Maynard, Nelson, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rucker, Smith, Stuart, Swope, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Trump, Weld, Woelfel, Woodrum, and Blair (Mr. President)—31.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Clements, Plymale, and Stover—3.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the bill (Eng. S. B. 529) passed with its title.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk communicate to the House of Delegates the action of the Senate and request concurrence therein.

**Eng. Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 540**, Updating WV coordinate systems.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time and put upon its passage.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barrett, Boley, Caputo, Chapman, Deeds, Grady, Hamilton, Hunt, Jeffries, Karnes, Maroney, Martin, Maynard, Nelson, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rucker, Smith, Stuart, Swope, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Trump, Weld, Woelfel, Woodrum, and Blair (Mr. President)—31.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Clements, Plymale, and Stover—3.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 540) passed with its title.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk communicate to the House of Delegates the action of the Senate and request concurrence therein.

**Eng. Senate Bill 547**, Authorizing legislative rules for Higher Education Policy Commission.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time and put upon its passage.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barrett, Boley, Caputo, Chapman, Deeds, Grady, Hamilton, Hunt, Jeffries, Karnes, Maroney, Martin, Maynard, Nelson, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rucker, Smith, Stuart, Swope, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Trump, Weld, Woelfel, Woodrum, and Blair (Mr. President)—31.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Clements, Plymale, and Stover—3.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the bill (Eng. S. B. 547) passed with its title.

Senator Takubo moved that the bill take effect from passage.

On this question, the yeas were: Azinger, Barrett, Boley, Caputo, Chapman, Deeds, Grady, Hamilton, Hunt, Jeffries, Karnes, Maroney, Martin, Maynard, Nelson, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rucker, Smith, Stuart, Swope, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Trump, Weld, Woelfel, Woodrum, and Blair (Mr. President)—31.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Clements, Plymale, and Stover—3.

So, two thirds of all the members elected to the Senate having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the bill (Eng. S. B. 547) takes effect from passage.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk communicate to the House of Delegates the action of the Senate and request concurrence therein.

**Eng. Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 557**, Relating to compensation for firefighters required to work holidays.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time and put upon its passage.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barrett, Boley, Caputo, Chapman, Deeds, Grady, Hamilton, Hunt, Jeffries, Karnes, Maroney, Martin, Maynard, Nelson, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rucker, Smith, Stuart, Swope, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Trump, Weld, Woelfel, Woodrum, and Blair (Mr. President)—31.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Clements, Plymale, and Stover—3.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for S. B. 557) passed with its title.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk communicate to the House of Delegates the action of the Senate and request concurrence therein.

**Eng. Com. Sub. for House Bill 4801**, Relating generally to the banking authority of the State Treasurer's Office.

On third reading, coming up in regular order, was read a third time and put upon its passage.

Senators Trump and Nelson, respectively, requested rulings from the Chair as to whether they should be excused from voting under Rule 43 of the Rules of the Senate.

The Chair replied that any impact on Senators Trump and Nelson would be as a member of a class of persons and that they would be required to vote.

On the passage of the bill, the yeas were: Azinger, Barrett, Boley, Caputo, Chapman, Deeds, Grady, Hamilton, Hunt, Jeffries, Karnes, Maroney, Martin, Maynard, Nelson, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Roberts, Rucker, Smith, Stuart, Swope, Takubo, Tarr, Taylor, Trump, Weld, Woelfel, Woodrum, and Blair (Mr. President)—31.

The nays were: None.

Absent: Clements, Plymale, and Stover—3.

So, a majority of all the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative, the President declared the bill (Eng. Com. Sub. for H. B. 4801) passed.

On motion of Senator Azinger, the following amendment to the title of the bill was reported by the Clerk and adopted:

**Eng. Com. Sub. for House Bill 4801**—A Bill to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §12-1-1b; to amend and reenact §12-1-5 of said code; and to amend and reenact §12-1B-5 and §12-1B-7 of said code, all relating generally to the banking and contractual authority of the State Treasurer's Office; setting forth prohibited terms and conditions in State Treasurer contracts consistent with general restrictions on other state contracts; authorizing rulemaking by the State Treasurer; and requiring advance

announcement by the State Treasurer of the West Virginia Security for Public Deposits Program commencement date by publication in the State Register.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk communicate to the House of Delegates the action of the Senate and request concurrence therein.

The Senate proceeded to the ninth order of business.

**Senate Bill 546**, Updating STEM scholarship program.

On second reading, coming up in regular order, was reported by the Clerk.

At the request of Senator Takubo, unanimous consent being granted, the bill was laid over one day, retaining its place on the calendar.

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 596**, Relating to administration of WV Water Pollution Control Act and Underground Carbon Dioxide Sequestration and Storage.

On second reading, coming up in regular order, was reported by the Clerk.

At the request of Senator Takubo, unanimous consent being granted, the bill was laid over one day, retaining its place on the calendar.

The Senate proceeded to the tenth order of business.

**Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 441**, Restricting driving in left lane of multi-lane highways in WV.

On first reading, coming up in regular order, was read a first time and ordered to second reading.

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 548**, Clarifying appellate jurisdiction of Intermediate Court of Appeals.

On first reading, coming up in regular order, was read a first time and ordered to second reading.

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 595**, Amending embalmer licensing requirements.

On first reading, coming up in regular order, was read a first time and ordered to second reading.

**Senate Bill 600**, Revising criteria for receiving reenlistment or retention bonus .

On first reading, coming up in regular order, was read a first time and ordered to second reading.

**Eng. Com. Sub. for House Bill 5045**, Related to the administration of the West Virginia Water Pollution Control Act, and Underground Carbon Dioxide Sequestration and Storage.

On first reading, coming up in regular order, was read a first time and ordered to second reading.

The Senate proceeded to the thirteenth order of business.

Under the provisions of Rule 15 of the Rules of the Senate, the following senator was removed as a co-sponsor of the following bill on February 6, 2024:

**Senate Bill 582:** Senator Hamilton.

Under the provisions of Rule 15 of the Rules of the Senate, the following senators were added as co-sponsors to the following bills and resolution on February 6, 2024:

**Senate Bill 351:** Senator Phillips;

**Senate Bill 378:** Senator Hamilton;

**Senate Bill 514:** Senators Deeds, Maroney, and Hamilton;

**Senate Bill 515:** Senator Deeds;

**Senate Bill 556:** Senator Maroney;

**Com. Sub. for Senate Bill 563:** Senator Maroney;

**Senate Bill 572:** Senator Hamilton;

**Senate Bill 591:** Senator Maroney;

**Senate Bill 597:** Senator Maroney;

**Senate Bill 599:** Senator Maroney;

**Senate Bill 610:** Senator Barrett;

**Senate Bill 614:** Senator Maynard;

**Senate Bill 616:** Senator Deeds;

**Senate Bill 649:** Senator Chapman;

**Senate Bill 667:** Senators Trump and Woelfel;

**Senate Bill 669:** Senator Plymale;

**Senate Bill 672:** Senators Phillips and Chapman;

**Senate Bill 676:** Senator Rucker;

**Senate Bill 677:** Senators Caputo and Woelfel;

**Senate Bill 679:** Senator Taylor;

**Senate Bill 680:** Senators Deeds, Plymale, and Woelfel;

And,

**Senate Concurrent Resolution 27:** Senator Stuart.

Pending announcement of meetings of standing committees of the Senate, including the Committee on Rules,

On motion of Senator Takubo, at 11:44 a.m., the Senate adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 11 a.m.

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## **SENATE CALENDAR**

**Thursday, February 08, 2024  
11:00 AM**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- S. R. 29 - Designating February 8, 2024, as Tucker County Day
- S. R. 30 - Designating February 8, 2024, as WV Hospital Day
- S. R. 31 - Designating February 8, 2024, as WV American Academy of Pediatrics Child Health Advocacy Day

### **SECOND READING**

- Com. Sub. for Com. Sub. for S. B. 441 - Restricting driving in left lane of multi-lane highways in WV
- S. B. 546 - Updating STEM scholarship program (original similar to HB5153)
- Com. Sub. for S. B. 548 - Clarifying appellate jurisdiction of Intermediate Court of Appeals
- Com. Sub. for S. B. 595 - Amending embalmer licensing requirements
- Com. Sub. for S. B. 596 - Relating to administration of WV Water Pollution Control Act and Underground Carbon Dioxide Sequestration and Storage
- S. B. 600 - Revising criteria for receiving reenlistment or retention bonus
- Eng. Com. Sub. for H. B. 5045 - Related to the administration of the West Virginia Water Pollution Control Act, and Underground Carbon Dioxide Sequestration and Storage (original similar to SB596)

### **FIRST READING**

- S. B. 351 - Expanding the definition of "small arms" for purposes of taxation
- S. B. 378 - Prohibiting smoking in vehicle when minor 16 or under is present
- Com. Sub. for S. B. 542 - Amending procedure for filling vacancies in certain county offices having more than three commissioners
- Com. Sub. for S. B. 587 - Enabling State Fire Commission to propose legislative rules
- Com. Sub. for S. B. 590 - Political Subdivision Labor Regulatory Limitation Act
- Com. Sub. for S. B. 614 - Relating to elementary behavior intervention and safety
- Com. Sub. for S. B. 616 - Modifying definition of "family or household members" as it relates to domestic violence laws

**ANNOUNCED SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Regular Session 2024**

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**Thursday, February 8, 2024**

10 a.m.	Education	(Room 451M)
10 a.m.	Government Organization	(Room 208W)
10:45 a.m.	Rules	(Room 219M)