

2007 APR -3 PM 4: 26

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

### **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2007** 

# ENROLLED

House Bill No. 2831

(By Delegate Duke, Doyle, Overington, Tabb and Blair)

Passed March 10, 2007

In Effect Ninety Days from Passage



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## H. B. 2831

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

(BY DELEGATE DUKE, DOYLE, OVERINGTON, TABB AND BLAIR)

[Passed March 10, 2007; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact §7-1-3mm of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to transfer of development rights; eliminating the five year ordinance waiting period; and providing that the transfer of development rights may be renewable.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §7-1-3mm of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

#### ARTICLE 1. COUNTY COMMISSIONS GENERALLY.

#### §7-1-3mm. Transfer of development rights in growth counties.

- (a) In addition to all other powers and duties now conferred by law upon county commissions, if a county has been designated as a growth county as that term is defined in section three, article twenty of this chapter, those county commissions, upon approval by a majority of the legal votes cast at an election as provided in section three-nn of this article, are hereby authorized to, as part of a county-wide zoning ordinance, establish a program for the transfer of development rights in order to:
- 10 (1) Encourage the preservation of natural resources;
- 11 (2) Protect the historic, scenic, recreational and agricultural qualities of open lands; and

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- 13 (3) Facilitate orderly growth and development in the county.
- 15 (b) The program for the transfer of development rights 16 may provide for:
- 17 (1) The voluntary transfer of the development rights 18 permitted on any parcel of land to another parcel of land for 19 use in accordance with the zoning and subdivision ordinance;
  - (2) Restricting or prohibiting further development of the parcel from which development rights are severed; and
- (3) Increasing the density or intensity of development of
  the parcel to which such rights are transferred.
- 24 (c) The program for the transfer of development rights 25 shall:
- 26 (1) Designate a program for which development rights 27 may be transferred from any parcel of land to any other 28 parcel of land for use in accordance with the zoning and 29 subdivision ordinance;
- 30 (2) Provide that any rights transferred under this section 31 be for a period of ten years and may be renewed for 32 additional ten year periods; and
- 33 (3) Any rights which expire before being used for development, revert to the original parcel of land from which the rights were first severed.
- (d) The county commission may not set a price for any
  development rights that are proposed to be transferred or
  received.
- (e) "Transferable development rights" means an interest in real property that constitutes the right to develop and use property under the zoning ordinance which is made severable from the parcel to which the interest is appurtenant and transferable to another parcel of land for development and use in accordance with the zoning ordinance.
- 45 (f) Transferable development rights may be transferred 46 by deed from the owner of the parcel from which the 47 development rights are derived and upon the transfer shall 48 vest in the grantee and be freely alienable.

- 49 (g) The zoning ordinance may provide for:
- 50 (1) The method of transfer of development rights;
- 51 (2) Recordation of the date of each transfer;
- 52 (3) The names of the transferor and transferee;
- 53 (4) A description of the property;
- 54 (5) The granting of easements;
- 55 (6) Reasonable regulations to effect and control transfers
- and assure compliance with the provisions of the ordinance;
- 57 and
- 58 (7) Any other information necessary to administer the program.

That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

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Chairman Senate Committee
Chairman House Committee
Originating in the House.
In effect ninety days from passage.
Dariell Phalan
Clerk of the Senate
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Clerk of the House of Delegates
(al By Somble
President of the Senate
Speaker of the House of Delegates
The within is approved this the 3rd
lay of April, 2007.
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Governor

PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

MAR 2 6 2007

Time 3:50 p