H. B. 2226 1 2 3 (By Delegate Williams) [Introduced January 12, 2011; referred to the 4 5 Committee on Roads and Transportation then 6 Judiciary.] 7 8 9 10 A BILL to amend and reenact §15-12-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 11 1931, as amended, relating to requiring the Division of Motor 12 Vehicles to notify the West Virginia State Police when a 13 registered sex offender purchases, trades or registers a motor 14 vehicle. 15 Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia: That \$15-12-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, 16 17 be amended and reenacted to read as follows: 18 ARTICLE 12. SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION ACT. 19 **§15-12-2**. **Registration**. 20 (a) The provisions of this article apply both retroactively 21 and prospectively. (b) Any person who has been convicted of an offense or an 22

23 attempted offense or has been found not guilty by reason of mental

- 1 illness, mental retardation or addiction of an offense under any of
- 2 the following provisions of chapter sixty-one or under a statutory
- 3 provision of another state, the United States Code or the Uniform
- 4 Code of Military Justice which requires proof of the same essential
- 5 elements shall register as set forth in subsection (d) of this
- 6 section and according to the internal management rules promulgated
- 7 by the superintendent under authority of section twenty-five,
- 8 article two of this chapter:
- 9 (1) Article eight, including the provisions of former section
- 10 six of said article, relating to the offense of sexual assault of
- 11 a spouse, which was repealed by an act of the Legislature during
- 12 the year 2000 legislative session;
- 13 (2) Article eight-c;
- 14 (3) Sections five and six, article eight-d;
- 15 (4) Section fourteen, article two;
- 16 (5) Sections six, seven, twelve and thirteen, article eight;
- 17 or
- 18 (6) Section fourteen-b, article three-c, as it relates to
- 19 violations of those provisions of chapter sixty-one listed in this
- 20 subsection.
- 21 (c) Any person who has been convicted of a criminal offense
- 22 and the sentencing judge made a written finding that the offense
- 23 was sexually motivated shall also register as set forth in this
- 24 article.

- (d) Persons required to register under the provisions of this article shall register in person at the West Virginia State Police detachment in the county of his or her residence, the county in which he or she owns or leases habitable real property that he or she visits regularly, the county of his or her place of employment or occupation and the county in which he or she attends school or a training facility, and in doing so, provide or cooperate in providing, at a minimum, the following when registering:
- 9 (1) The full name of the registrant, including any aliases, 10 nicknames or other names used by the registrant;
- 12 resides at the time of registration, the address of any habitable
 13 real property owned or leased by the registrant that he or she
 14 regularly visits: Provided, That a post office box may not be
 15 provided in lieu of a physical residential address, the name and
 16 address of the registrant's employer or place of occupation at the
 17 time of registration, the names and addresses of any anticipated
 18 future employers or places of occupation, the name and address of
 19 any school or training facility the registrant is attending at the
 20 time of registration and the names and addresses of any schools or
 21 training facilities the registrant expects to attend;
- 22 (3) The registrant's social security number;
- 23 (4) A full-face photograph of the registrant at the time of 24 registration;

- 1 (5) A brief description of the crime or crimes for which the 2 registrant was convicted;
- 3 (6) Fingerprints;
- 4 (7) Information related to any motor vehicle, trailer or motor
 5 home owned or regularly operated by a registrant, including vehicle
 6 make, model, color and license plate number: Provided, That for
 7 the purposes of this article, the term "trailer" shall mean means
 8 travel trailer, fold-down camping trailer and house trailer as
 9 those terms are defined in section one, article one of chapter
 10 seventeen-a: Provided, however, That the West Virginia State
 11 Police shall provide the Division of Motor Vehicles a list of
 12 persons registered under this section and in the event a registrant
 13 purchases, trades or registers a motor vehicle the Division of
 14 Motor Vehicles shall so notify the State Police;
- 15 (8) Information relating to any Internet accounts the 16 registrant has and the screen names, user names or aliases the 17 registrant uses on the Internet; and
- 18 (9) Information related to any telephone or electronic paging 19 device numbers that the registrant has or uses, including, but not 20 limited to, residential, work and mobile telephone numbers.
- (e) (1) On the date that any person convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental illness, mental retardation or addiction of any of the crimes listed in subsection (b) of this section, thereinafter referred to as a "qualifying offense", including those

1 persons who are continuing under some post-conviction supervisory 2 status, are released, granted probation or a suspended sentence, 3 released on parole, probation, home detention, work release, 4 conditional release or any other release from confinement, the 5 Commissioner of Corrections, regional jail administrator, city 6 official or sheriff operating a jail or Secretary of the Department 7 of Health and Human Resources who releases the person and any 8 parole or probation officer who releases the person or supervises 9 the person following the release, shall obtain all information 10 required by subsection (d) of this section prior to the release of 11 the person, inform the person of his or her duty to register and 12 send written notice of the release of the person to the State 13 Police within three business days of receiving the information. 14 The notice must include the information required by said 15 subsection. Any person having a duty to register for a qualifying 16 offense shall register upon conviction, unless that person is 17 confined or incarcerated, in which case he or she shall register 18 within three business days of release, transfer or other change in 19 disposition status.

20 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of this article to the 21 contrary, a court of this state shall, upon presiding over a 22 criminal matter resulting in conviction or a finding of not guilty 23 by reason of mental illness, mental retardation or addiction of a 24 qualifying offense, cause, within seventy-two hours of entry of the

- 1 commitment or sentencing order, the transmittal to the sex offender
- 2 registry for inclusion in the registry all information required for
- 3 registration by a registrant as well as the following
- 4 nonidentifying information regarding the victim or victims:
- 5 (A) His or her sex;
- 6 (B) His or her age at the time of the offense; and
- 7 (C) The relationship between the victim and the perpetrator.
- 8 The provisions of this paragraph do not relieve a person
- 9 required to register pursuant to this section from complying with
- 10 any provision of this article.
- 11 (f) For any person determined to be a sexually violent
- 12 predator, the notice required by subsection (d) of this section
- 13 must also include:
- 14 (1) Identifying factors, including physical characteristics;
- 15 (2) History of the offense; and
- 16 (3) Documentation of any treatment received for the mental
- 17 abnormality or personality disorder.
- 18 (g) At the time the person is convicted or found not quilty by
- 19 reason of mental illness, mental retardation or addiction in a
- 20 court of this state of the crimes set forth in subsection (b) of
- 21 this section, the person shall sign in open court a statement
- 22 acknowledging that he or she understands the requirements imposed
- 23 by this article. The court shall inform the person so convicted of
- 24 the requirements to register imposed by this article and shall

- 1 further satisfy itself by interrogation of the defendant or his or 2 her counsel that the defendant has received notice of the 3 provisions of this article and that the defendant understands the 4 provisions. The statement, when signed and witnessed, constitutes 5 prima facie evidence that the person had knowledge of the 6 requirements of this article. Upon completion of the statement, 7 the court shall provide a copy to the registry. Persons who have 8 not signed a statement under the provisions of this subsection and 9 who are subject to the registration requirements of this article 10 must be informed of the requirement by the State Police whenever 11 the State Police obtain information that the person is subject to 12 registration requirements.
- (h) The State Police shall maintain a central registry of all 14 persons who register under this article and shall release 15 information only as provided in this article. The information 16 required to be made public by the State Police by subdivision (2), 17 subsection (b), section five of this article is to be accessible 18 through the Internet. No information relating to telephone or 19 electronic paging device numbers a registrant has or uses may be 20 released through the Internet.
- 21 (i) For the purpose of this article, "sexually violent 22 offense" means:
- 23 (1) Sexual assault in the first degree as set forth in section 24 three, article eight-b, chapter sixty-one or of a similar provision

- 1 in another state, federal or military jurisdiction;
- 2 (2) Sexual assault in the second degree as set forth in
- 3 section four, article eight-b, chapter sixty-one or of a similar
- 4 provision in another state, federal or military jurisdiction;
- 5 (3) Sexual assault of a spouse as set forth in the former
- 6 provisions of section six, article eight-b, chapter sixty-one,
- 7 which was repealed by an act of the Legislature during the 2000
- 8 legislative session, or of a similar provision in another state,
- 9 federal or military jurisdiction;
- 10 (4) Sexual abuse in the first degree as set forth in section
- 11 seven, article eight-b, chapter sixty-one or of a similar provision
- 12 in another state, federal or military jurisdiction.
- 13 (j) For purposes of this article, the term "sexually
- 14 motivated" means that one of the purposes for which a person
- 15 committed the crime was for any person's sexual gratification.
- 16 (k) For purposes of this article, the term "sexually violent
- 17 predator" means a person who has been convicted or found not guilty
- 18 by reason of mental illness, mental retardation or addiction of a
- 19 sexually violent offense and who suffers from a mental abnormality
- 20 or personality disorder that makes the person likely to engage in
- 21 predatory sexually violent offenses.
- 22 (1) For purposes of this article, the term "mental
- 23 abnormality" means a congenital or acquired condition of a person,
- 24 that affects the emotional or volitional capacity of the person in

- 1 a manner that predisposes that person to the commission of criminal
- 2 sexual acts to a degree that makes the person a menace to the
- 3 health and safety of other persons.
- 4 (m) For purposes of this article, the term "predatory act"
- 5 means an act directed at a stranger or at a person with whom a
- 6 relationship has been established or promoted for the primary
- 7 purpose of victimization.
- 8 (n) For the purposes of this article, the term "business
- 9 days", means days exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays and legal
- 10 holidays as defined in section one, article two of chapter two.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require the Division of Motor Vehicles to notify the West Virginia State Police when a registered sex offender purchases, trades or registers a motor vehicle.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.