

1 significant potential for even greater growth and economic impact
2 on the state's economy if properly developed.

3 (b) The Legislature finds that West Virginia's eastern
4 mountains have the topography and the weather to present a ski
5 product that rivals that of the New England states, yet after
6 thirty-five years our ski industry is still well short of this
7 potential.

8 (c) The Legislature further finds that if the potential
9 described in subsection (b) of this section is reached, West
10 Virginia will see the addition of several hundred million dollars
11 per year into its economy.

12 (d) There is hereby created the West Virginia Ski Resort
13 Industry Commission to encourage and foster the continued
14 development of the state's ski resort industry.

15 **§4-14-2. Membership; terms; filling vacancies; election of chair**
16 **and vice chair.**

17 (a) The Governor shall appoint three members as follows:

18 (1) The Secretary of the Department of Commerce, or a
19 designee; and

20 (2) Two citizen members with knowledge or expertise in the ski
21 resort industry;

22 (b) The Speaker of the House of Delegates shall appoint three
23 members of the House of Delegates.

24 (c) The President of the Senate shall appoint three members of

1 the Senate.

2 (d) The members shall serve from July 1, 2010, until October
3 31, 2011.

4 (e) Appointments to fill vacancies shall be for the unexpired
5 terms. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original
6 appointments.

7 (f) The commission shall elect a chair and a vice chair from
8 among its members.

9 **§4-14-3. Expense reimbursement.**

10 (a) Members shall serve without compensation.

11 (b) Commission members may be reimbursed for all reasonable
12 and necessary expenses actually incurred in the performance of
13 duties as a commission member, in a manner consistent with the
14 guidelines of the travel management office of the Department of
15 Administration. Travel expenses incurred by House of Delegates or
16 Senate members shall be paid by the Joint Committee on Government
17 and Finance. Travel expenses incurred by the Secretary of the
18 Department of Commerce, or a designee, or by the commission's
19 citizen members shall be paid by the Department of Commerce.

20 **§4-14-4. Quorum; meetings.**

21 (a) A simple majority of the members serving on the commission
22 at a given time constitutes a quorum for the transaction of
23 business.

24 (b) Meetings shall be held in accordance with the provisions

1 of article nine-a, chapter six of this code.

2 **§4-14-5. Advisory council.**

3 The commission may establish an advisory council composed of
4 citizens at large who have interest in the state's ski resort
5 industry.

6 **§4-14-6. Powers; duties.**

7 (a) The commission shall, in consultation with the Department
8 of Commerce:

9 (1) Identify policies to encourage economic growth of the ski
10 resort industry;

11 (2) Identify promising locations for geographical and
12 development opportunities in the ski resort industry; and

13 (3) Report to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance at
14 the October 2011 legislative interim meetings with recommendations
15 to facilitate the directives of this article.

16 (b) The Department of Commerce shall provide administrative
17 support to the commission where needed to enable the commission to
18 carry out its responsibilities under this article.

19 **§4-14-7. Termination of the commission.**

20 The commission terminates on October 31, 2012.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to create the West Virginia Ski Resort Industry Commission to encourage and foster continued development of the state's ski resort industry.

§4-14-1 through §4-14-7 are new; therefore, it has been completely underscored.