

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

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Senate Bill No. 418

(By Senator Laird)

[Originating in the Committee on the Judiciary;
reported February 8, 2012.]

A BILL to amend and reenact §62-12-12 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to qualification of members of the Parole Board.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §62-12-12 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 12. PROBATION AND PAROLE.

§62-12-12. Parole board generally.

1 ~~There shall be a state board of parole, known as (a) The~~
2 West Virginia Parole Board is continued. The board shall

3 consist of nine members, each of whom shall have been a
4 resident of this state for at least five consecutive years
5 prior to his or her appointment. No more than five of the
6 board members may at any one time belong to the same
7 political party. The board shall be appointed by the Gover-
8 nor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

9 (b) ~~Appointments following the effective date of this~~
10 ~~section~~ shall be made in such a manner that each congres-
11 sional district is represented and so that no more than four
12 and no less than two members of the board reside in any
13 one congressional district. No more than two members of
14 the board may reside in any one county. ~~Each member of~~
15 ~~the board shall have a degree in criminal justice, or like~~
16 ~~experience and academic training~~

17 (c) Any person initially appointed to the board on or
18 after July 1, 2012, shall have at least a baccalaureate de-
19 gree from an accredited college or university and at least
20 five years of actual experience in the fields of penology,
21 corrections, law enforcement, sociology, law, education,
22 psychology, social work, medicine or a combination
23 thereof and shall be otherwise competent to perform the
24 duties of his or her office. The members shall be appointed

25 for overlapping terms of six years. ~~Any member qualified~~
26 ~~under this section is~~ Members are eligible for reappoint-
27 ment. The members of the board shall devote their full
28 time and attention to their board duties. The Governor
29 shall appoint one of the nine appointed members to serve
30 as chairperson at the Governor's will and pleasure.