H. B. 3144

(By Delegate Westfall)

[Introduced March 25, 2013; referred to the Committee on Government Organization then the Judiciary.]

A BILL to amend and reenact §16-13-18 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to supervision of works by a sanitary board; providing that if a professional engineer is under contract for a project, an engineer is not required to serve on the sanitary board.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §16-13-18 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 13. SEWAGE WORKS AND STORMWATER WORKS.

§16-13-18. Supervision of works by sanitary board; organization of board; qualifications, terms and compensation of members.

(a) The governing body shall provide by ordinance the organization of the board, and that the custody, administration,
1 operation and maintenance of such works shall be under the 2 supervision and control of a sanitary board, created as herein 3 provided.

4  (b) Such The sanitary board shall be composed of either the 5 mayor of the municipality, or the city manager thereof, if said the 6 municipality shall have a city manager form of government, and two 7 persons appointed by the governing body: Provided, That, in the 8 event of an acquisition or merger of an existing works, the 9 governing body may increase the membership to a maximum of four 10 members in addition to the mayor or city manager of the 11 municipality served by the board.

12  (c) During the construction period, one of the members must be 13 a registered professional engineer, except that if a registered 14 professional engineer is under contract for the project, the 15 membership of the board is not required to include a registered 16 professional engineer. The engineer member of the board need not 17 be a resident of said the municipality. After the construction of 18 the plant for which no registered professional engineer is under 19 contract has been completed, the engineer member may be succeeded 20 by a person not an engineer. No officer or employee of the 21 municipality, whether holding a paid or unpaid office, shall be is 22 eligible to appointment on said sanitary board until at least one 23 year after the expiration of the term of his or her public office. 24 The appointees shall originally be appointed for terms of two and
1 three years respectively, and upon the expiration of each term and
2 each succeeding term, an appointment of a successor shall be made
3 in like manner for a term of three years. Vacancies shall be filled
4 for an unexpired term in the same manner as the original
5 appointment. Each member shall give such bond, if any, as may be
6 required by ordinance. The mayor or city manager shall act as
7 chairman of the sanitary board, which shall elect a vice chairman
8 from its members and shall designate a secretary and treasurer (but
9 the secretary and the treasurer may be one and the same), who need
10 not be a member or members of the sanitary board. The vice
11 chairman, secretary and treasurer shall hold office as such at the
12 will of the sanitary board.
13 (d) The members of the sanitary board shall receive
14 compensation for their services, either as a salary or as payments
15 for meetings attended, as the governing body may determine, and
16 shall be entitled to payment for their reasonable expenses incurred
17 in the performance of their duties. The governing body shall fix
18 the reasonable compensation of the secretary and treasurer in its
19 discretion, and shall fix the amounts of bond to be given by the
20 treasurer. All compensation, together with the expenses in this
21 section referred to, shall be paid solely from funds provided under
22 the authority of this article. The sanitary board shall have power
23 to establish bylaws, rules and regulations for its own government.
NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide that a sanitary board is not required to have a registered professional engineer serving on the board if the board is supervising construction of a project for which a registered professional engineer is under contract.

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