

1 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

2 for

3 **H. B. 4371**

4  
5 (By Delegates Caputo, Longstreth and Manchin.)

6 (Originating in the Committee on the Judiciary)

7  
8 [February 12, 2014]

9  
10 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by  
11 adding thereto a new section, designated §61-3-13a, relating  
12 to making the theft of a traffic sign or traffic signal a  
13 felony; and establishing criminal penalties and restitution.

14 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

15 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended  
16 by adding thereto a new section, designated §61-3-13a, to read as  
17 follows:

18 **ARTICLE 3. CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY.**

19 **§61-3-13a. Theft of traffic signs; reckless endangerment;**  
20 **penalties.**

21 A person who removes and carries away a traffic sign or a  
22 traffic signal, regardless of value, on any street or highway,  
23 upon any residential street, in any parking area, upon the ways of

1 any institution of higher education, whether public or private,  
2 upon the ways of any state institution, upon the property of any  
3 county boards of education, or upon any property within the State  
4 Park and Public Recreation System established by the Director of  
5 the Division of Natural Resources pursuant to article five, chapter  
6 twenty of this code, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon  
7 conviction thereof be confined in jail not more than one year,  
8 shall be fined not more than \$2,500 and shall pay for all  
9 replacement costs of the signs.