

Senate Bill No. 627

(By Senator Miller)

[Introduced February 17, 2014; referred to the Committee on Government Organization; and then to the Committee on Finance.]

**FISCAL
NOTE**

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §15-5-29; and to amend said code by adding thereto a new article, designated §22-30-1, §22-30-2, §22-30-3, §22-30-4, §22-30-5, §22-30-6, §22-30-7, §22-30-8, §22-30-9, §22-30-10, §22-30-11, §22-30-12, §22-30-13, §22-30-14, §22-30-15, §22-30-16, §22-30-17 and §22-30-18, all relating generally to preventing and mitigating catastrophes involving toxic substances; providing the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management with subpoena powers; giving the division the ability to hire hearing examiners and other staff; giving a short title to article thirty, chapter twenty-two of this code; providing legislative findings and a purpose for the section; defining terms in the article; listing extraordinarily hazardous substances; providing a registration process for facilities

1 that generate, store or handle toxic substances; listing safer
2 materials, methods and technologies; providing a risk
3 management program for registrants; providing a process for a
4 risk management assessment; providing a hazardous substance
5 risk reduction plan; providing a process for verification of
6 compliance; authorizing the division to propose legislative
7 rules regarding the issuance of insurance; requiring the
8 agency to propose rules for the protection of confidential
9 information; providing violations and penalties for violations
10 of this article; providing for collection of fees from
11 facility owners and operators; providing guidance for the
12 division's working relationship with local governmental
13 bodies; providing the division with adjudicative powers;
14 providing the division with an adjudicatory procedure and
15 process; and providing an appeal process on final judgments.

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

17 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended
18 by adding thereto a new section, designated §15-5-29; and that said
19 code be amended by adding thereto a new article, designated §22-30-
20 1, §22-30-2, §22-30-3, §22-30-4, §22-30-5, §22-30-6, §22-30-7, §22-
21 30-8, §22-30-9, §22-30-10, §22-30-11, §22-30-12, §22-30-13, §22-30-
22 14, §22-30-15, §22-30-16, §22-30-17 and §22-30-18, all to read as
23 follows:

24 **CHAPTER 15. PUBLIC SAFETY.**

1 **ARTICLE 5. DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.**

2 **§15-5-29. Administrative adjudicative powers.**

3 (a) The Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
4 has the power to issue subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum, and may
5 conduct hearings pursuant to article five, chapter twenty-nine-a of
6 this code, in order to meet its responsibilities under article
7 thirty, chapter twenty-two of this code.

8 (b) The director of the division shall hire hearing examiners
9 and may hire other staff in order to exercise the division's duties
10 under this section.

11 **CHAPTER 22. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES.**

12 **ARTICLE 30. TOXIC CATASTROPHE PREVENTION ACT.**

13 **§22-30-1. Short title.**

14 This article may be known and cited as the "Toxic Catastrophe
15 Prevention Act."

16 **§22-30-2. Legislative findings and purpose.**

17 The Legislature finds that a variety of industrial facilities
18 and related operations generate, store, handle and transport
19 extremely hazardous substances, and that some of those operations
20 may represent a catastrophic threat to public health and safety,
21 especially in more densely populated parts of the state. A number
22 of events have demonstrated that modern technology, operations
23 systems and safeguards can fail in protecting against such threats.

1 These events include the 2014 chemical spill into the Elk River and
2 the toxic release in 2008 of methyl isocyanate--a chemical which is
3 known to have injured over five hundred fifty thousand people in
4 Bhopal, India--as well as a score of accidental chemical releases
5 into the state's air. The Legislature finds that while a
6 strengthened capacity to minimize and abate discharges once they
7 occur are vital components of a comprehensive public protection
8 program, the single most effective effort to be made is toward
9 prevention of those environmental accidents by anticipating the
10 circumstances that could result in their occurrence and taking
11 those precautionary and preemptive actions required.

12 **§22-30-3. Definitions.**

13 As used in this article:

14 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Homeland
15 Security and Emergency Management;

16 "Division" means the Division of Homeland Security and
17 Emergency Management;

18 "Extraordinarily hazardous accident risk" means a potential
19 for release of an extraordinarily hazardous substance into the
20 environment, which could produce a significant likelihood that
21 persons exposed may suffer acute health effects resulting in death
22 or permanent disability;

23 "Extraordinarily Hazardous Substance" means any substance or
24 chemical compound used, manufactured, stored, or capable of being

1 produced from on-site components in this state in sufficient
2 quantities at a single site so that its release into the
3 environment would produce a significant likelihood that persons
4 exposed will suffer acute health effects resulting in death or
5 permanent disability. It also includes any substance of chemical
6 compound used, manufactured, stored or capable of being produced
7 from on-site components in this state in sufficient quantities at
8 a single site such that its release puts at risk any public water
9 intake system would produce a significant likelihood that public
10 water would not be available for its normal household and
11 commercial uses;

12 Extraordinarily Hazardous Substance Accident Risk Assessment”
13 or “EHSARA” means a review and safety evaluation of those
14 operations in a facility which involve the generation, storage, or
15 handling of an extraordinarily hazardous substance, as provided in
16 section six of this article;

17 “Extraordinarily Hazardous Substance List” means the
18 substances or chemical compounds identified in subsection (a) of
19 section four of this article and adopted by regulation pursuant to
20 subsection (c) of that section;

21 “Extraordinarily Hazardous Substance Risk Reduction Work Plan”
22 or “work plan” means the document developed by the division for
23 each facility at which is generated, stored, or handled an
24 extraordinarily hazardous substance, setting forth the scope and

1 detail of the EHSARA to which the facility will be submitted, as
2 provided in section six of this article;

3 "Facility" means a building, equipment, and contiguous area.
4 Facility does not include a research and development laboratory,
5 which means a specially designated area used primarily for
6 research, development, and testing activity, and not primarily
7 involved in the production of goods for commercial sale, in which
8 extraordinarily hazardous substances are used by or under the
9 supervision of a technically qualified person; and

10 "Risk management program" means the sum total of programs for
11 the purpose of minimizing extraordinarily hazardous accident risks,
12 including, but not limited to, requirements for safety review of
13 design for new and existing equipment, requirements for standard
14 operating procedures, requirements for preventive maintenance
15 programs, requirements for operator training and accident
16 investigation procedures, requirements for risk assessment for
17 specific pieces of equipment or operating alternatives,
18 requirements for emergency response planning and internal or
19 external audit procedures to ensure programs are being executed as
20 planned.

21 **§22-30-4. Extraordinarily hazardous substance list; registration**
22 **of facilities generating, storing or handling**
23 **substances.**

24 (a) The following chemicals or chemical compounds, in the

1 quantities indicated, constitute the initial extraordinarily
2 hazardous substance list: hydrogen chloride and allyl chloride in
3 quantities of two thousand pounds or more; hydrogen cyanide,
4 hydrogen fluoride, chlorine, phosphorus trichloride, and hydrogen
5 sulfide in quantities of five hundred pounds or more; and phosgene,
6 bromine, methyl isocyanate and 2,4-Toluene diisocyanate in
7 quantities of one hundred pounds or more.

8 (b) Any other chemical or chemical compound, in any quantity,
9 that is stored, manufactured or used upstream of a water intake is
10 also considered to be extraordinarily hazardous.

11 (c) Within sixty days of the effective date of this article,
12 the division shall develop and issue a registration form to be
13 completed within one hundred twenty days of the effective date of
14 this article, by the owner or operator of each facility in the
15 state which at any time generates, stores, or handles any of the
16 extraordinarily hazardous substances on the initial extraordinarily
17 hazardous substance list, pursuant to subsection (a) of this
18 section. The registration form shall provide, in addition to any
19 other information that may be required by the division, the
20 following: an inventory of the extraordinarily hazardous substance
21 or substances generated, stored, or handled at the facility and the
22 quantity or quantities of the substances, which inventory shall
23 identify whether those substances are end products, intermediate
24 products, by-products, or waste products; a general description of

1 the processes and principal equipment involved in the management of
2 the substance or substances; a profile of the area in which the
3 facility is situated, including its proximity to population and
4 water supplies; the extent to which the risks and hazards of the
5 processes, equipment and operations have been identified, evaluated
6 and abated, and the expertise and affiliation of the evaluators and
7 any direct or indirect relationship between the evaluators and the
8 owner or operator of the facility; and the name or names of all
9 insurance carriers underwriting the facility's environmental
10 liability and workers' compensation insurance policies and the
11 scope of these policies, including any limitations and exclusions.

12 (d) Within eighteen months of the effective date of this
13 article, the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency
14 Management, in consultation with the Bureau of Public Health, shall
15 develop and, after a public hearing, adopt as a rule an
16 extraordinarily hazardous substance list and all locations where
17 public water intakes are at risk from releases. The list shall
18 correlate the substances or compounds with the quantities of the
19 substances or compounds required to produce the potentially
20 catastrophic circumstance. The division shall have the power to
21 amend, by rule, the extraordinarily hazardous substance list to
22 accommodate new chemical compounds that may be developed or reflect
23 new information or scientific data that may become available to the
24 division.

1 (e) Within ninety days of the adoption by the division of an
2 extraordinarily hazardous substance list pursuant to subsection (c)
3 of this section, the owner or operator of each facility in the
4 state which generates, stores, or handles any of the
5 extraordinarily hazardous substances on the extraordinarily
6 hazardous substance list, not registered pursuant to subsection (b)
7 of this section, shall complete the registration form developed and
8 issued by the division.

9 **§22-30-5. Inherently safer materials, method and technology.**

10 In all risk management assessments, programs and systems,
11 owners, operators and the division shall use risk management
12 programs that adopt inherent safety and inherently safe materials,
13 method and technology as a goal. An inherent safety program for
14 hazardous substances uses each of the following strategies:

15 (1) A minimizing strategy that involves minimizing the use of
16 hazardous chemicals or compounds in a system, ideally to the point
17 that the uncontrolled release of the entire inventory of material
18 or energy would not cause significant damage;

19 (2) A substitution strategy that involves using less hazardous
20 reaction chemistry or replacing a hazardous material with a less
21 hazardous substitute;

22 (3) A moderating strategy that involves using a chemical or
23 material in a less hazardous form, or under less severe conditions;
24 and

1 (4) A simplification strategy that involves elimination
2 unnecessary complexities to avoid human error.

3 **§22-30-6. Risk management program of registrants.**

4 (a) If the owner or operator of a facility that submitted a
5 registration form pursuant to section four of this article has
6 established a risk management program, the division shall provide
7 for the submission and review of the risk management program before
8 requiring the owner or operator to take any other action regarding
9 the facility and program pursuant to this article. If the division
10 finds the risk management program has any material deficiencies or
11 omissions that could reduce the effectiveness of the risk
12 management program, it shall recommend to the owner or operator
13 risk management program changes or additions. No later than sixty
14 days after the recommendation, the owner or operator shall submit
15 to the division any action the owner or operator proposes in order
16 to correct the deficiencies or omissions. The owner's or operator's
17 proposals may be in accordance with the changes and additions
18 recommended by the division or in accordance with alternative
19 changes, additions or proposals recommended by the owner or
20 operator.

21 (b) If the owner or operator and the division agree on the
22 measures necessary to correct the deficiencies or omissions in the
23 risk management program, the parties may enter into a consent
24 agreement.

1 (c) If the parties cannot reach an agreement, the director,
2 after notice and hearing and written findings of fact, may issue an
3 administrative order requiring changes or additions to correct the
4 deficiencies. Information available on the cost-effectiveness,
5 extraordinarily hazardous accident risk reduction effectiveness and
6 technical feasibility of any changes or additions that the division
7 or owner or operator recommends shall be considered by the division
8 and the director in making any decision. Any order shall follow
9 administrative hearing procedures, which are subject to judicial
10 review as necessary. This hearing procedure shall, to the maximum
11 extent practicable and feasible, be accorded priority status.

12 **§22-30-7. Extraordinarily hazardous substance risk reduction work**
13 **plan; accident risk assessments.**

14 Upon review of all registrations and accompanying materials
15 submitted pursuant to this article, the division shall, in
16 cooperation with the facility owner or operator, develop an
17 Extraordinarily Hazardous Substance Risk Reduction Work Plan for
18 each registered facility without a risk management program agreed
19 upon by the facility owner and the division or subject to a consent
20 agreement or administrative order entered into pursuant to section
21 five of this article. The work plan shall constitute the basis for
22 any Extraordinarily Hazardous Substance Accident Risk Assessment
23 required of that facility, to be performed pursuant to this
24 section. The work plan shall require: the reporting of the identity

1 and quantity of all extraordinarily hazardous substances generated,
2 stored, handled or that could unwittingly be produced in the event
3 of an equipment breakdown, human error, design defect, a procedural
4 failure or the imposition of an external force; the nature, age and
5 condition of all the equipment and instruments involved in the
6 handling and management of the extraordinarily hazardous substance
7 or substances at the facility and the schedules for their testing
8 and maintenance; the measures and precautions designed to protect
9 against the intrusions of external forces and events, or to control
10 or contain discharges within the facility; the circumstances that
11 would have to be obtained in order for there to result a discharge
12 of an extraordinarily hazardous substance, and the practices,
13 procedures and equipment designed to forestall an event; any
14 alternative processes, procedures or equipment which might reduce
15 the risk of a release of an extraordinarily hazardous substance
16 while yielding the same or commensurate results, and the specific
17 reasons they are not employed; any training or management practices
18 in place which impart knowledge to relevant personnel regarding the
19 dangers posed by a release of an extraordinarily hazardous
20 substance and the training provided to prepare them for the safe
21 operation of the facility and for unanticipated occurrences; and
22 any other preventive maintenance measure or on-site emergency
23 response capability or other internal mechanism developed to
24 safeguard against the occurrence of an accidental release of an

1 extraordinarily hazardous substance or any other aspect or
2 component of the facility deemed relevant by the division. The
3 division may, by rule or on a case-by-case basis, limit the scope
4 or detail of the work plan and the priority or frequency of review
5 of any facility or facility operation or component of a facility or
6 facility operation where the division determines, in writing, that
7 the action does not remove or compromise the protection required
8 for the public interest, and enables the division to allocate its
9 resources more efficiently and effectively.

10 **§22-30-8. Accident risk assessment.**

11 The owner or operator of every facility registered with the
12 division pursuant to section four of this article shall submit
13 those operations in the facility concerned with the generation,
14 storage, handling or safeguarding of any extraordinarily hazardous
15 substance to an EHSARA, except as provided in section five with
16 respect to facilities with an established risk management program.
17 The EHSARA shall be conducted in conformity with the work plan for
18 the facility developed by the division pursuant to section six of
19 this article by an independent consultant selected by the division
20 from a list of three candidates submitted by the owner of the
21 subject facility or, at the option of the division, by the division
22 or by an independent consultant contracted for directly by the
23 division: *Provided*, That the division, with respect to the former
24 option, may request the owner of the subject facility to provide

1 three additional candidate consultants if it finds all three
2 originally submitted by the facility owner unacceptable.

3 The owner of the subject facility shall be assessed a fee
4 established in accordance with a schedule, established as a rule by
5 the division, which reflects all the costs of the risk assessment
6 of that facility conducted by, or on behalf of, the division.

7 **§22-30-9. Extraordinarily hazardous substance risk reduction plan.**

8 (a) Upon review of the EHSARA for each facility, the division
9 shall, if appropriate, order the owner or operator of the facility
10 to undertake an extraordinarily hazardous substance risk reduction
11 plan. The order shall identify the risk or risks that must, within
12 the limits of practicability and feasibility, be abated and a
13 reasonable timetable for implementation of the plan. The division
14 shall, by rule, establish criteria or quantitative standards for
15 determining risk, which criteria and standards shall reflect, among
16 other factors, the size of the potentially exposed population and
17 potential health and environmental consequences. The director may
18 order those operations posing the identified risk or risks that
19 have not been abated on schedule to cease until the risk reduction
20 plan has been implemented.

21 (b) The owner of a facility who is aggrieved by an order
22 issued pursuant to subsection (a) of this section may petition the
23 director for a review of the matter, pursuant to his or her
24 providing the director with all data and documents which he or she

1 believes demonstrate that the order is unwarranted. If the
2 director, after review, affirms the initial order, he or she shall,
3 at the request of the aggrieved owner, transmit all relevant
4 materials and documents on the matter to the Office of
5 Administrative Law, which shall conduct a hearing on the order.
6 This hearing shall be an adjudicatory proceeding conducted as a
7 contested case. The division and the aggrieved owner of the
8 facility are deemed parties in interest in the proceeding. After
9 review of the record of the adjudicatory proceeding and the
10 recommendation of the administrative law judge, the director shall
11 affirm or modify his or her order. The decision of the director
12 constitutes final agency action on the matter, and is subject only
13 to judicial review as provided in the rules of court. During the
14 pendency of the review and the hearing, the timetable for
15 compliance with the order giving rise to the proceeding is
16 suspended.

17 **§22-30-10. Verification of compliance; records.**

18 (a) The division has the right to enter any facility at any
19 time in order to verify compliance with the provisions of this
20 article and the quality of all work performed pursuant to this
21 article except that facility owners or operators are under no
22 obligation to employ any personnel solely to assure access to the
23 facility by the division when this access would otherwise be
24 impossible.

1 (b) The division shall propose legislative rules and enforce
2 a system of record keeping. Owners or operators of each facility
3 registered pursuant to section four of this article are required to
4 report to the division on all risk assessment and risk reduction
5 efforts undertaken pursuant to this article, all ongoing
6 maintenance measures taken, all unanticipated and unusual events
7 and any other information the division deems appropriate. This
8 information shall be so designed as to prevent the destruction or
9 alteration of information and data contained in those records.

10 These legislative rules shall also establish strict penalties,
11 or other sanctions, to be assessed against any party guilty of
12 destroying or tampering with any records required to be kept
13 pursuant to this article.

14 **§22-30-11. Insurance carriers; release of information.**

15 (a) The division may propose legislative rules creating an
16 administrative procedure process to determine whether an owner of
17 a facility which generates, stores or handles any extraordinarily
18 hazardous substances should be required to authorize the insurance
19 carrier or carriers which underwrite environmental liability or
20 workers' compensation insurance for that facility to release to the
21 division information relevant to the risks posed by the facility's
22 management of the substance or substances. If so authorized, the
23 insurance carrier or carriers shall release the information within
24 the period of time established by the division, but in no case less

1 than two weeks.

2 (b) An insurance carrier or its representative may not be held
3 liable in a civil proceeding for any statement made or action taken
4 voluntarily or in response to an authorization or request from the
5 client facility pursuant to this section unless actual malice on
6 the part of the insurer or its representative is present. This
7 immunity shall extend to protect an insurance carrier or its
8 representative from being held liable to any party who sustains any
9 loss or injury as a direct or consequential result of the carrier's
10 or its representative's compliance, noncompliance, or attempt to
11 comply with this article.

12 (c) The division is authorized to disclose information
13 obtained from an insurance carrier or its representative pursuant
14 to this section only to its own employees or agents to assist in
15 enforcing the provisions of this article, or for use in a civil or
16 criminal proceeding, if so ordered by a court.

17 (d) A person who, as required by this section, knowingly and
18 willfully refuses to release information required under this
19 article, or fails to hold information received under this article
20 in confidence, is liable for a penalty not to exceed \$5,000, to be
21 collected and enforced in a summary manner under subsection (d) of
22 section sixteen of this article. The proceedings may be brought by
23 the division or by a person or an insurer injured by a failure to
24 keep the information confidential. If a money judgment is rendered

1 against the defendant, it shall be paid to the plaintiff. A
2 reasonable and good faith effort to comply with the provisions of
3 this section is a defense to an alleged violation of this section.

4 **§22-30-12. Rules governing confidential information.**

5 (a) The division shall, pursuant to the adoption of
6 legislative rules, establish principles, guidelines and procedures
7 governing the internal management of confidential information
8 supplied to the division pursuant to this article. The rules shall
9 provide that information obtained pursuant to this article be
10 disclosed only to its employees or agents to assist in enforcing
11 the provisions of this article, or for use in civil or criminal
12 proceedings, if so ordered by a court, and shall include, but not
13 be limited to, requirements that: (1) All confidential information
14 supplied pursuant to this article be labeled "confidential" by the
15 facility owner; (2) receipt of labeled information be acknowledged
16 in writing by an authorized employee of the division; (3) the
17 division establish a review procedure by which only specifically
18 designated personnel be authorized access to such information and
19 then only on a "need-to-know" basis; and (4) the division establish
20 secure areas for the express purpose of storage of such
21 confidential information.

22 (b) The owner of a facility who alleges that certain
23 information required to be disclosed pursuant to this article
24 contains or relates to a trade secret or constitutes security

1 information which, notwithstanding the management procedures for
2 information adopted by the division pursuant to subsection (a) of
3 this section, must be kept privileged so as not to competitively
4 disadvantage the facility, or compromise the security of the
5 facility or its operations, shall petition the director for the
6 right to withhold the information. Upon receipt of the petition,
7 the director shall review the matter. If the director, in his or
8 her discretion, denies the petition, then the division shall
9 conduct a summary proceeding on the claim pursuant to the
10 provisions of subsection (d) of section sixteen of this article. At
11 the hearing, the petitioner has the burden of showing that the
12 trade secret or security risk claim is valid. This hearing shall be
13 an adjudicatory proceeding, and shall be conducted as a contested
14 case pursuant to chapter twenty-nine-a of this code.

15 **§22-30-13. Violations; penalties.**

16 (a) If any person violates any of the provisions of sections
17 four through eight of this article or any rule adopted pursuant to
18 those sections, the division may institute a civil action in a
19 court of competent jurisdiction for injunctive or any other
20 appropriate relief to prohibit and prevent this violation and the
21 court may proceed in the action in a summary manner.

22 (b) Any person who violates the provisions of sections four
23 through eight of this article or any rule adopted pursuant to those
24 sections is liable to a civil administrative penalty of not more

1 than \$10,000 for the first offense, not more than \$20,000 for the
2 second offense, and up to \$50,000 for the third and each subsequent
3 offense. If the violation is of a continuing nature, each day
4 during which it continues constitutes an additional, separate and
5 distinct offense. No civil administrative penalty may be levied
6 except subsequent to the notification of the violator by certified
7 mail or personal service. The notice shall include: a reference to
8 the section of the statute, rule, order or permit condition
9 violated; a concise statement of the facts alleged to constitute
10 the violation; a statement of the amount of the civil penalties to
11 be imposed; and a statement of the violator's right to a hearing.
12 The violator has twenty days from receipt of the notice within
13 which to deliver to the director a written request for a hearing.
14 Subsequent to the hearing and upon a finding that a violation has
15 occurred, the director may issue a final order after assessing the
16 amount of the fine specified in the notice. If no hearing is
17 requested, the notice becomes a final order upon the expiration of
18 the twenty day period. Payment of the penalty is due when a final
19 order is issued or when the notice becomes a final order. The
20 authority to levy a civil administrative penalty is in addition to
21 all other enforcement provisions in this article, and the payment
22 of a civil administrative penalty does not affect the availability
23 of any other enforcement provision in connection with the violation
24 for which the penalty is levied.

1 (c) The division is authorized and empowered to compromise and
2 settle any claim for a penalty under this section in an amount in
3 the discretion of the division as may appear equitable under the
4 circumstances, including the posting of a performance bond by the
5 violator.

6 (d) Any person who violates any of the provisions of sections
7 four through eight of this article, or any rule adopted pursuant to
8 those sections, an administrative order issued pursuant to
9 subsection (b) of this section, a court order issued pursuant to
10 subsection (a) of this section or who fails to pay a civil
11 administrative penalty in full pursuant to subsection (b) of this
12 section is subject, upon order of the court, to a civil penalty not
13 to exceed \$10,000 per day of the violation, and each day's
14 continuance of the violation constitutes a separate and distinct
15 violation. Any penalty imposed under this subsection may be
16 recovered with costs in a summary proceeding pursuant to subsection
17 (d) of section sixteen of this article.

18 **§22-30-14. Fees.**

19 The division is authorized to charge and collect fees from
20 facility owners registered pursuant to section four of this
21 article, in accordance with a schedule adopted as a rule, which
22 shall reflect the costs to the division of reviewing individual
23 facilities while enabling the division to continue to administer
24 the program on a self-supporting basis.

1 **§22-30-15. Local governmental programs; inconsistent ordinances;**
2 **approval.**

3 The division shall make every effort to involve hazardous
4 materials advisory councils, where they exist; local government
5 officials, and other pertinent entities in explaining actions taken
6 in regard to facilities in their areas. Local ordinances which are
7 inconsistent with, in conflict with, or more restrictive than the
8 provisions of this article must be approved by the division before
9 adoption.

10 **§22-30-16. Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management**
11 **administrative adjudicative process.**

12 (a) The division shall make available to parties aggrieved by
13 civil violations of this article all the actions and remedies
14 provided in article five, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code.

15 (b) The division's procedure for adjudicating claims made
16 under this article shall follow article five, chapter twenty-nine-a
17 of this code.

18 (c) Pursuant to section one, article six, chapter twenty-nine-
19 a of this code, a party adversely affected by the final judgment of
20 the circuit court under chapter twenty-nine-a may seek review of
21 the final judgment by appeal to the Supreme Court of Appeals of
22 West Virginia.

23 (d) The division may order that a summary proceeding before a

1 hearing examiner be held to recover any penalties it imposes. The
2 party ordered to pay the penalty may challenge a summary ruling to
3 the circuit court of Kanawha County within thirty days of the
4 ruling.

5 **§22-30-17. Administrative adjudicatory action.**

6 Any individual claiming to be aggrieved by a violation of this
7 article may file a claim with the division pursuant to section
8 twenty-nine, article five, chapter fifteen of this code. Any
9 complaint filed pursuant to this article must be filed within
10 ninety days after the discovery of the violation.

11 After the filing of any complaint, the division shall make a
12 prompt investigation into the matter.

13 If it is determined after such investigation that no probable
14 cause exists for substantiating the allegations of the complaint,
15 the division shall, within ten days from such determination, cause
16 to be issued and served upon the complainant written notice of that
17 determination, and the complainant or his or her attorney may,
18 within ten days after service, file with the division a written
19 request for a meeting to show probable cause for substantiating the
20 allegations of the complaint.

21 Where the division finds a violation of this article, the
22 division shall issue and serve a written notice, together with a
23 copy of the complaint as the same may have been amended, in the
24 manner provided by law for the service of summons in civil actions,

1 requiring the respondent to answer the charges of the complaint at
2 a hearing before the division in the county where the respondent
3 resides or transacts business at a time and place to be specified
4 in such notice: *Provided*, That written notice be served at least
5 thirty days prior to the time set for the hearing.

6 The case in support of the complaint shall be presented before
7 the division by one of its attorneys or agents. The respondent may
8 file a written, verified answer to the complaint and appear at the
9 hearing in person or otherwise, with or without counsel, and submit
10 testimony and evidence. Except as provided in this article, all of
11 the pertinent provisions of article five chapter twenty-nine-a of
12 this code apply to and govern the hearing and the administrative
13 procedures in connection with and following the hearing, with like
14 effect as if the provisions of article five were set forth in this
15 section.

16 If, after a hearing and consideration of all of the testimony,
17 evidence and record in the case, the division finds that a
18 respondent has engaged in or is engaging in a violation of this
19 article, the division shall issue and serve the respondent an order
20 to cease and desist from the unlawful activity and pay compensatory
21 damages that may not exceed \$5,000. An order shall be accompanied
22 by findings of fact and conclusions of law as specified in section
23 three, article five, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code. Any action
24 where more than \$5,000 in damages is sought by the complainant

1 shall be filed in a circuit court of this state.

2 If, after a hearing and consideration of all of the testimony,
3 evidence and record in the case, the division finds that a
4 respondent has not engaged in an unlawful discriminatory practice,
5 the division shall state its findings of fact and conclusions of
6 law as noted in this section and shall issue and cause to be served
7 on the complainant an order dismissing the complaint as to the
8 respondent.

9 A copy of its order shall be delivered in all cases by the
10 division to the complainant, the respondent, the Attorney General
11 and to any other public officers as the division may deem proper.
12 Any order shall not be enforceable except as provided section
13 eighteen of this article.

14 **§22-30-18. Appeal and enforcement of division orders.**

15 Any final order of the division may be appealed to the circuit
16 court of Kanawha County within thirty days if the issuing of the
17 final order by the division, pursuant to section four, article
18 five, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code. Where an appeal has been
19 filed, the respondent shall respond within thirty days of filing
20 and the court shall make a determination within the following
21 thirty days. Any party adversely affected by the final judgment of
22 the circuit court of Kanawha County may seek review of the final
23 judgment by appeal to the Supreme Court of Appeals if filing within
24 thirty days of entry of the final order of the circuit court,

1 pursuant to section one, article six, chapter twenty-nine-a of this
2 code.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to give the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services a process for preventing and mitigating catastrophes involving toxic substances, and providing the division with adjudicatory powers for handling violations of this article. This bill is the same as H.B. 4515.

The language in this bill is new; therefore, underscoring is omitted.