

**Senate Bill No. 279**

(By Senators Walters, Blair, Gaunch, Boso, Karnes, Maynard and D. Hall)

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[Introduced January 21, 2015; referred to the Committee on Labor; and then to the Committee on the Judiciary.]

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A BILL to amend and reenact §21-1-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to qualifications of the Commissioner of Labor; and amending language that commissioner be identified with labor interests of the state.

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

That §21-1-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 1. DIVISION OF LABOR.**

**§21-1-2. Appointment of Commissioner of Labor; qualifications; term of office; salary.**

The state Commissioner of Labor shall be appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. He or she shall be a competent person, ~~who is identified with the labor interests of the state~~ who has training and experience with labor-management relations.

Commissioner of Labor in office on the effective date of this section shall, unless sooner removed, continue to serve until his or her term expires and his or her successor has been appointed and has qualified. On or before April 1, 1941, and on or before April 1 of each fourth year thereafter, the

- 1 Governor shall appoint a Commissioner of Labor to serve for a term of four years, commencing on
- 2 April 1. The commissioner shall receive an annual salary as provided in section two-a, article seven,
- 3 chapter six of this code.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to amend language that the Commissioner of Labor be a person identified with labor interests of the state.

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