

**Senate Bill No. 447**

(By Senators Karnes, Boley,  
Gaunch and Leonhardt)

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[Introduced February 10, 2015;  
referred to the Committee on Education;  
and then to the Committee on the Judiciary.]

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A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §18-8-12, relating to allowing a person who administers a program of secondary education at a public, private or home school to issue a diploma or other appropriate credential to a person who has completed the program of secondary education.

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

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §18-8-12, to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 8. COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.**

**§18-8-12. Issuance of a diploma or other appropriate credential by public, private or home school administrator.**

1           A person who administers a program of secondary education at a public, private or home  
2 school that meets the requirements of this chapter may issue a diploma or other appropriate  
3 credential to a person who has completed the program of secondary education. Such diploma or  
4 credential is legally sufficient to demonstrate that the person meets the definition of having a high  
5 school diploma or its equivalent. No state agency or institution of higher learning in this state may  
6 reject or otherwise treat a person differently solely on the grounds of the source of such a diploma

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- 1 or credential. Nothing in this section prevents any agency or institution of higher learning from
- 2 inquiring into the substance or content of the program to assess the content thereof for the purposes
- 3 of determining whether a person meets other specific requirements.

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(NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to authorize a person who administers a program of secondary education at a public, private or home school to issue a diploma or other appropriate credential to a person who has completed the program of secondary education.

§18-8-12 is new; therefore, strike-throughs and underscoring have been omitted.)