

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2017 REGULAR SESSION

ENROLLED

Committee Substitute

for

House Bill 2195

BY DELEGATES ROHRBACH, COOPER, ROWAN,
HORNBUCKLE, AMBLER, HICKS, SOBONYA, FRICH AND
THOMPSON

[Passed April 6, 2017; in effect ninety days from passage.]

1 AN ACT to amend and reenact §18-2-7b of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
2 to requiring comprehensive drug awareness and prevention program in all public schools;
3 requiring county boards to implement no later than 2018-2019 school year; specifying
4 purposes of program; requiring county boards to coordinate delivery of instruction to meet
5 program purposes with educators, drug rehabilitation specialists and law-enforcement
6 agencies; requiring instruction relating to interactions with law-enforcement officers; and
7 requiring instruction in any of the grades six through twelve in the subject of health on
8 dangers, and addictive nature of opioid use and safer alternatives to treat pain.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That §18-2-7b of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and
2 reenacted, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

§18-2-7b. Programs in drug prevention and violence reduction.

1 (a) In order for the schools to become healthy learning environments and to provide a
2 strong defense against drug use and violence, the State Board of Education shall prescribe
3 programs within the existing health and physical education program which teach resistance and
4 life skills to counteract societal and peer pressure to use drugs, alcohol and tobacco, and shall
5 include counselors, teachers and staff in full implementation of the program. The board shall also
6 prescribe programs to coordinate violence reduction efforts in schools and between schools and
7 their communities and to train students, teachers, counselors and staff in conflict resolution skills.
8 The program shall be comprehensive, interdisciplinary and shall begin in elementary school.

9 (b) No later than the start of the 2018-2019 school year, a county board shall implement
10 comprehensive drug awareness and prevention programs for students in grades K through 12 to
11 receive instruction regarding the dangers of substance abuse. The purpose of the drug awareness
12 and prevention program is to:

13 (1) Keep students from illegally using alcohol, tobacco or other drugs;

14 (2) Reduce or eliminate the incidence and prevalence of student's alcohol, tobacco and
15 other drug abuse;

16 (3) Reduce the factors that place students at risk of abusing alcohol, tobacco or other
17 drugs through school and a community based planning processes;

18 (4) Contribute to the development of school environments and alternative activities that
19 are alcohol, tobacco and drug-free;

20 (5) Increase the knowledge and skills of students, staff and community members for
21 avoiding the harmful effects of alcohol, tobacco and drug use, and of blood borne pathogens;

22 (6) Actively involve staff, students, parents and community members in the development
23 and implementation of the drug awareness and prevention program plans;

24 (7) Facilitate an understanding and appreciation of the risks to, duties of, and likely actions
25 by law-enforcement officers when conducting investigations; and

26 (8) Instruct how to respond to an officer during a vehicular or other stop or police
27 interaction, including problematic or dangerous action and behaviors that could result in a person
28 being detained or arrested.

29 (c) The county board shall coordinate the delivery of instruction to meet the purposes of
30 subsection (b) of this section with educators, drug rehabilitation specialists and law-enforcement
31 agencies to periodically provide age appropriate student education on their experiences with the
32 impacts of illegal alcohol and drug use.

33 (d) Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, instruction required pursuant to section
34 nine of this article in the subject of health education in any of the grades six through twelve as
35 considered appropriate by the county board shall include at least sixty minutes of instruction for
36 each student on the dangers of opioid use, the additive characteristics of opioids, and safer
37 alternatives to treat pain.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

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Chairman, House Committee

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Chairman, Senate Committee

Originating in the House.

In effect ninety days from passage.

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Clerk of the House of Delegates

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Clerk of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Delegates

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President of the Senate

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day of, 2017.

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Governor