

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2017 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2669

BY DELEGATES O'NEAL, OVERINGTON, MOORE, COWLES,
HANSHAW, ZATEZALO, KESSINGER, FAST, SOBONYA,
WILSON AND FOSTER, G.

[Introduced February 22, 2017; Referred
to the Committee on the Judiciary.]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §3-2-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to
 2 eligibility to register to vote; and altering the terms for registration for voters from legal
 3 residence to legal domicile.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That §3-2-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted
 2 to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2. REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

§3-2-2. Eligibility to register to vote.

1 (a) Any person who possesses the constitutional qualifications for voting may register to
 2 vote. To be qualified, a person must be a citizen of the United States and a legal resident of legally
 3 domiciled in West Virginia and ~~of~~ in the county where he or she is applying to register, shall be at
 4 least eighteen years of age, except that a person who is at least seventeen years of age and who
 5 will be eighteen years of age by the time of the next ensuing general election may also be
 6 permitted to register, and shall not be otherwise legally disqualified: *Provided*, That a registered
 7 voter who has not reached eighteen years of age may vote both partisan and nonpartisan ballots
 8 in a federal, state, county, municipal or special primary election if he or she will be eighteen years
 9 of age by the time of the corresponding general election.

10 (b) Any person who has been convicted of a felony, treason or bribery in an election, under
 11 either state or federal law, is disqualified and is not eligible to register or to continue to be
 12 registered to vote while serving his or her sentence, including any period of incarceration,
 13 probation or parole related thereto. Any person who has been declared mentally incompetent by
 14 a court of competent jurisdiction is disqualified and shall not be eligible to register or to continue
 15 to be registered to vote for as long as that disability continues.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to change the qualification for voter registration from legal residency to that of legal domicile to register persons where permanently resident rather than temporarily resident.

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