

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2017 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2973

BY DELEGATES HOWELL, CRISS, WARD, C. ROMINE,

ATKINSON AND SYPOLT

[Introduced March 13, 2017; Referred
to the Committee on Education.]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
 2 designated §18-2-26b; and to amend said code by adding thereto a new section,
 3 designated §18-11-8b, all relating to requiring the regional education service agencies to
 4 cease offering firefighter training courses and vesting the responsibility with the WVU
 5 Cooperative Extension Service to continue offering the same or equivalent courses

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new
 2 section, designated §18-2-26b; and that said code be amended by adding thereto a new section,
 3 designated §18-11-8b, all to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

**§18-2-26b. Regional education service agencies to cease offering firefighter training
 courses; responsibility for firefighter training courses to be transferred to WVU
 Cooperative Extension Service.**

1 Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the contrary, any regional education service
 2 agency providing firefighter training courses to the general public shall cease offering those
 3 courses. The RESA shall not discontinue a course upon the effective date of this legislation, but
 4 will allow the course to continue until it is completed. The responsibility for continuing the same,
 5 or equivalent, courses to the public shall be transferred to the WVU Cooperative Extension
 6 Service in the region, as provided in section eight-b, article eleven of this chapter. The RESA shall
 7 coordinate with to WVU Extension Service to transfer any personnel providing firefighter training
 8 courses, and to transfer any funding related to the firefighter training program.

ARTICLE 11. WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY.

18-11-8b. Cooperative Extensive Service and firefighter training courses.

1 Upon the effective date of this section, the Cooperative Extension Service shall be
 2 designated as the local agency responsible for offering firefighting training courses to the public.

- 3 The Cooperative Extension Service shall work closely with the regional education service
4 agencies currently offering these courses to ensure the same, or equivalent courses, are offered
5 to the public by the Cooperative Extension Service.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require RESAs to cease offering firefighting courses and to transfer responsibility for providing those services to the WVU Cooperative Extension Service.

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