

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2017 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 641

BY SENATORS JEFFRIES, BEACH, MILLER, OJEDA,

PLYMALE, PREZIOSO AND STOLLINGS

[Introduced March 17, 2017; referred
to the Committee on Government Organization]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article,
2 designated §30-41-1 and §30-41-2, all relating to requiring welders working in the State
3 of West Virginia to meet certain certification requirements and to conform to national
4 welding standards.

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 article, designated §30-41-1 and §30-41-2, all to read as follows:

ARTICLE 41. WELDERS.

§30-41-1. Definitions.

1 As used in this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

2 (1) "AWS" means the American Welding Society;

3 (2) "ASME" means the American Society of Mechanical Engineers;

4 (3) "Accredited testing facility" means a facility that tests and certifies welders and welding
5 inspectors, and the facility has been accredited by the AWS;

6 (4) "Certified welding inspector" means a person who has been certified by the AWS to
7 inspect structural steel welding projects;

8 (5) "D1.1" means Structural Welding Code - Steel, approved American National Standard
9 from the AWS;

10 (6) "D1.5" means Bridge Welding Code, approved American National Standard, from the
11 AWS jointly with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials;

12 (7) "Structural steel welding" means structural welds, weld repair, the structural system,
13 and the welding of all primary steel members of a structure per D1.1 and D1.5; except where
14 ASME work is required it shall be done by ASME certified welders; and

15 (8) "Welding standards" means the specifications, guidelines, tests, and other methods
16 used to develop a system of quality control to ensure that welding is conducted in such a manner
17 that all welds must meet, at a minimum, D1.1, D1.5, standards established by the AWS and the

18 West Virginia Building Code.

§30-41-2. Licensing and Standards

1 To ensure the safety, quality, and integrity of structural steel welding and that all welding
2 standards are met, the requirements of this section shall be mandated by general contractors,
3 project managers, contractors, and subcontractors in all projects involving structural steel welding:

4 (1) Welders performing structural steel welding on a project in the field shall have been
5 tested and certified by an accredited testing facility;

6 (2) Structural steel welding performed on a project in the field shall meet welding
7 standards; and

8 (3) Structural steel welding performed on a project in the field shall be inspected by a
9 certified welding inspector per job specifications.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require welders working in the State of West Virginia to meet certain certification requirements and to conform to national welding standards.

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