

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2018 REGULAR SESSION

Committee Substitute

for

House Bill 3089

BY DELEGATES ESPINOSA, STATLER, HIGGINBOTHAM,

UPSON, COOPER, ROWAN, HARSHBARGER AND DEAN

[Originating in the Committee on Education

January 15, 2018]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; by adding thereto a new section,
2 designated §18-2A-10, relating to the adoption of instructional resources for use in the
3 public schools; providing for transition to new provisions for instructional resources
4 adoption; defining instructional resources; providing for adoption cycle rule; requiring
5 person, firm, or corporation desiring to offer instructional resources for use by students to
6 file statement containing and verifying certain information; requiring state board to provide
7 list of vendors to counties; prohibiting county board from adopting or using instructional
8 resources not in compliance; disqualification of person, firm or corporation for failure to
9 honor terms of filing; supplementary resources exempted; requiring necessary
10 instructional resources be furnished to students free of charge, including reasonable
11 access to electronic resources; requiring county board policy on instructional resources
12 adoption and specifying minimum provisions; and prohibiting board of education member
13 or employee from acting as sales agents for person, firm or corporation filing statement
14 with superintendent.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

**ARTICLE 2A. ADOPTION OF ~~TEXTBOOKS~~, INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS ~~AND~~
LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES RESOURCES.**

§18-2A-10. Transition to system of instructional resources adoption at county board level.

1 (a) The purpose of this section is to provide for a transition to the county board level of the
2 process for review and adoption of instructional resources required to be used in the schools
3 under the jurisdiction of the county board. Notwithstanding any other provision of this article to
4 the contrary, for instructional resources adopted by a county board for use in the school year
5 beginning July 1, 2019, and successive school years, the provisions of sections one, two, three,
6 four, five, six, seven, and eight of this article are repealed to the extent that they are in conflict
7 with the provisions of this section: *Provided*, That nothing in this section limits or prevents a county

8 board from adopting instructional resources approved and included on the state multiple list under
9 those provisions for the duration of the adoption cycle if they choose to do so.

10 (b) As used in this section, "instructional resources" means print materials, electronic
11 resources and systems, or combinations of such instructional resources which convey information
12 to a student that covers no less than eighty percent the required content and skills approved by
13 the state board for subjects taught in the public schools of the state.

14 (c) The state board shall set by rule an adoption cycle for instructional resources.

15 (d) Any person, firm, or corporation desiring to offer instructional resources for use by
16 students in the public schools of West Virginia shall, before the instructional resources may be
17 adopted and purchased by any county board, file with the state superintendent, on or before
18 January 1 of each year, a statement containing and verifying the following information:

19 (1) The instructional resources to be offered for purchase meet the non-negotiable
20 evaluation criteria established by the state board;

21 (2) The instructional resources to be offered for purchase by the vendor covers no less
22 than eighty percent of the required content and skills for the subject as approved by the state
23 board;

24 (3) The list wholesale price to county boards in West Virginia for the specified instructional
25 resource will be no more than the lowest list wholesale price available to school districts in any
26 other state; and

27 (4) The list wholesale price filed for any specified number of electronic files for any print
28 instructional resources the publisher offers with the print instructional resources does not exceed
29 the list wholesale price for the same number of the printed version of the print instructional
30 resources.

31 (e) The state board shall annually provide to all county boards of education a list of all
32 vendors that have provided a statement in accordance with subsection (d) of this section.

33 (f) A county board may not adopt or cause to be used in the public schools any instructional
34 resource unless the person, firm, or corporation offering the instructional resource for adoption or
35 use has complied with this section, except for the adoption of instructional resources approved
36 and included on the state multiple list as provided in subsection (a) of this section.

37 (g) If a person, firm, or corporation files a statement under subsection (d) of this section
38 and fails or refuses to furnish the instructional resources to any county board in accordance with
39 the terms provided in the statement, the board at once shall notify the state superintendent of the
40 failure or refusal. If the state superintendent finds the failure or refusal to be true, the state
41 superintendent shall disqualify the person, firm, or corporation and notify each county board that
42 its instructional resources may not thereafter be adopted and purchased by any county board until
43 the person, firm, or corporation is requalified.

44 (h) This section does not apply to the purchase of supplementary instructional resources,
45 including, but not limited to, reading books, library books, reference books, or any other books.
46 These supplementary instructional resources shall be ordered, received, examined, and paid for
47 in the same manner and by the same persons as other supplies and equipment.

48 (i) Each county board shall furnish, free of charge, the necessary instructional resources
49 to the students attending the public schools in that county. A county board that chooses to furnish
50 electronic instructional resources to its students shall provide reasonable access to the electronic
51 resources and necessary computer equipment to students required to complete homework
52 assignments that require using the resources and equipment and to teachers providing these
53 homework assignments. All instructional resources furnished as provided in this section shall be
54 the property of the county board and loaned to students on terms as each board prescribes.

55 (j) Every county board shall adopt a policy regarding the adoption of instructional
56 resources which shall include, at a minimum, the following:

57 (1) The process for reviewing instructional resources to ensure the resources meet the
58 non-negotiable requirements established by the state board and cover no less than eighty percent

59 of the required content and skills for a subject as approved by the state board: *Provided*, That a
60 county board may rely on an instructional material review completed by the state department of
61 education to fulfill this requirement;

62 (2) The composition, duties, and responsibilities of the county's instructional resource
63 review committee;

64 (3) The process for recommending instructional resources that are proposed for adoption;

65 (4) At a properly noticed meeting, the county board shall determine by a majority vote of
66 all members elected which instructional resources shall be required in the schools under its
67 control; and

68 (5) The county board shall provide an annual report of the instructional resources adopted
69 to the state board of education.

70 (k) A board of education member or employee may not act as sales agent, either directly
71 or indirectly, for any person, firm, or corporation that files an instructional resources statement
72 with the state superintendent.

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