

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2019 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2824

FISCAL
NOTE

BY DELEGATES JENNINGS, ROWAN AND ATKINSON

[Introduced February 1, 2019; 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 §18-5-18d, relating to teacher to pupil ratio in grades first through third, and
 3 requiring third grade students show proficiency before advancing to fourth grade.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 5. COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.

**§18-5-18d. Early childhood programs; teacher pupil ratio first through third grade;
 proficiency required for advancement to fourth grade.**

1 (a) Notwithstanding provisions in §18-5-18a of this code and any other section of this code
 2 to the contrary, beginning with the 2020–2021 school year:

3 (1) The ratio of teachers to pupils in grades first through third grade shall be no greater
 4 than one teacher for 20 students; and

5 (2) No student in third grade may be advanced to fourth grade until the student has
 6 demonstrated proficiency at the third-grade level.

7 (b) No later than September 1, 2019, the state board shall establish standards by which
 8 third grade students in the state shall be taught and tested for proficiency to be advanced to fourth
 9 grade.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to limit the teacher-pupil ratio for first through third grade at no more than 1 to 20, and to provide that third-grade students must demonstrate proficiency before advancing to fourth grade.

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