

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2021 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 297

BY SENATORS WOODRUM, PLYMALE, AND HAMILTON

[Introduced February 15, 2021; referred
to the Committee on Finance]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §12-6C-4 and §12-6C-9 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as
 2 amended, all relating generally to the Board of Treasury Investments; authorizing the
 3 board to provide compensation to appointed directors for each meeting attended and
 4 establishing the rate thereof; authorizing the board to invest in commercial paper with a
 5 certain nationally recognized rating and weighted maturity; authorizing the board to invest
 6 in state and local government securities with certain nationally recognized ratings;
 7 removing the limitation on the percentage of the Consolidated Fund that the board may
 8 invest in certain corporate securities; and eliminating the requirement that the board invest
 9 a certain percentage of the Consolidated Fund in obligations guaranteed by the United
 10 States.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 6C. WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF TREASURY INVESTMENTS.

§12-6C-4. West Virginia Board of Treasury Investments created; body corporate; board; directors; nomination and appointment of directors, qualifications and terms of appointment, advice and consent; annual and other meetings; committees; board approval of investment policies required; open meetings, qualifications.

1 (a) The West Virginia Board of Treasury Investments is created as a public body corporate
 2 and established to provide prudent fiscal administration, investment and management for the
 3 Consolidated Fund.

4 (b) Any appointment to the board is effective immediately upon appointment by the
 5 Governor with respect to voting, constituting a quorum, receiving expenses and all other rights
 6 and privileges of the director position. A trustee of the West Virginia Investment Management
 7 Board other than the Governor, State Treasurer or State Auditor is not eligible to serve as a
 8 Director of the Board.

9 (c) The board shall consist of five ~~members~~ directors, as follows:

10 (1) The Governor, the State Treasurer and the State Auditor or their designees. They shall
11 serve by virtue of their offices and are not entitled to compensation under the provisions of this
12 article. The Governor, State Treasurer and State Auditor or their designees are subject to all
13 duties, responsibilities and requirements of the provisions of this article; and

14 (2) Two persons appointed by the Governor subject to the advice and consent of the
15 Senate.

16 (d) Of the two ~~persons~~ directors appointed by the Governor, one shall be a certified public
17 accountant with experience in finance, investing and management, and one shall be an attorney
18 with experience in finance, investing and management.

19 (e)(1) Initial appointment of the appointed directors shall be for the following terms:

20 (A) One ~~member~~ director shall be appointed for a term ending the June 30, 2007; and

21 (B) One ~~member~~ director shall be appointed for a term ending June 30, 2009.

22 (2) Except for appointments to fill vacancies, each subsequent appointment shall be for
23 the term ending June 30th of the fourth year following the year the preceding term expired. A
24 director may be reappointed. In the event a vacancy occurs it shall be filled by appointment for
25 the unexpired term. A director whose term has expired shall continue in office until a successor
26 has been duly appointed and qualified. No appointed member of the board may be removed from
27 office by the Governor except for official misconduct, incompetency, neglect of duty, gross
28 negligence, misfeasance or gross immorality.

29 (f) All directors shall receive reasonable and necessary expenses actually incurred in
30 discharging director's duties pursuant to this article. The board is authorized to compensate each
31 director, appointed by the Governor, in an amount of up to \$500 for each board meeting that the
32 director attends in person.

33 (g) The board shall hold quarterly meetings. Board bylaws may provide for calling and
34 holding additional meetings. Representatives of participants and members of the public may
35 attend any meeting held by the board, except during those meetings or part of meetings closed

36 by the board as permitted by law. Attendees shall observe standards of decorum established by
37 board policy.

38 (h) The board shall annually adopt a fee schedule and a budget reflecting fee structures
39 for the year.

40 (i) The board chairman may appoint committees as needed, including, but not limited to,
41 an investment policies committee to discuss drafting, reviewing or modifying written investment
42 policies. Each committee shall seek input from participants before reporting its recommendations
43 to the board. The board may meet with any or all committees during any of its meetings.

44 (j) Any meeting of the board may be closed upon adoption of a motion by any director
45 when necessary to preserve the attorney-client privilege, to protect the privacy interests of
46 individuals, to review personnel matters or to maintain confidentiality when confidentiality is in the
47 best interest of the participants.

§12-6C-9. Asset allocation; investment policies, authorized investments; restrictions.

1 (a) The board shall develop, adopt, review or modify an asset allocation plan for the
2 Consolidated Fund at each annual board meeting.

3 (b) The board shall adopt, review, modify or cancel the investment policy of each fund or
4 pool created at each annual board meeting. For each participant directed account authorized by
5 the State Treasurer, staff of the board shall develop an investment policy for the account and
6 create the requested account. The board shall review all existing participant directed accounts
7 and investment policies at its annual meeting for modification.

8 (c) The board shall consider the following when adopting, reviewing, modifying or
9 canceling investment policies:

10 (1) Preservation of capital;

11 (2) Risk tolerance;

12 (3) Credit standards;

13 (4) Diversification;

- 14 (5) Rate of return;
- 15 (6) Stability and turnover;
- 16 (7) Liquidity;
- 17 (8) Reasonable costs and fees;
- 18 (9) Permissible investments;
- 19 (10) Maturity ranges;
- 20 (11) Internal controls;
- 21 (12) Safekeeping and custody;
- 22 (13) Valuation methodologies;
- 23 (14) Calculation of earnings and yields;
- 24 (15) Performance benchmarks and evaluation; and
- 25 (16) Reporting.

26 (d) No security may be purchased by the board unless the type of security is on a list
27 approved at a board meeting. The board shall review the list at its annual meeting.

28 (e) Notwithstanding the restrictions which are otherwise provided by law with respect to
29 the investment of funds, the board and all participants, now and in the future, may invest funds in
30 these securities:

31 (1) Obligations of, or obligations that are insured as to principal and interest by, the United
32 States of America or any agency or corporation thereof and obligations and securities of the
33 United States sponsored enterprises, including, without limitation:

- 34 (i) United States Treasury;
- 35 (ii) Export-Import Bank of the United States;
- 36 (iii) Farmers Home Administration;
- 37 (iv) Federal Farm Credit Banks;
- 38 (v) Federal Home Loan Banks;
- 39 (vi) Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation;

- 40 (vii) Federal Land Banks;
- 41 (viii) Government National Mortgage Association;
- 42 (ix) Merchant Marine bonds; and
- 43 (x) Tennessee Valley Authority Obligations;
- 44 (2) Obligations of the Federal National Mortgage Association;
- 45 (3) Commercial paper with one of the two highest commercial paper credit ratings by a
- 46 nationally recognized statistical rating organization;
- 47 (4) Commercial paper with one of the three highest commercial paper credit ratings by a
- 48 nationally recognized statistical rating organization for pools with a weighted average maturity or
- 49 duration of at least 366 days;
- 50 ~~(4)~~ (5) Corporate debt rated in one of the six highest rating categories by a nationally
- 51 recognized statistical rating organization;
- 52 ~~(5)~~ (6) Corporate debt rated investment grade by a nationally recognized statistical rating
- 53 organization for pools with a weighted average maturity or duration of at least 366 days;
- 54 ~~(6)~~ (7) State and local government, or any instrumentality or agency thereof, securities
- 55 with one of the ~~three~~ seven highest long-term ratings by a nationally recognized statistical rating
- 56 organization;
- 57 ~~(7)~~ (8) Repurchase agreements involving the purchase of United States Treasury
- 58 securities and repurchase agreements fully collateralized by obligations of the United States
- 59 government or its agencies or instrumentalities;
- 60 ~~(8)~~ (9) Reverse repurchase agreements involving the purchase of United States Treasury
- 61 securities and reverse repurchase agreements fully collateralized by obligations of the United
- 62 States government or its agencies or instrumentalities;
- 63 ~~(9)~~ (10) Asset-backed securities rated in the highest category by a nationally recognized
- 64 statistical rating organization;
- 65 ~~(10)~~ (11) Certificates of deposit;

66 ~~(11)~~ (12) Money market and other fixed income funds; and
67 ~~(12)~~ (13) Investments in accordance with the Linked Deposit Program, a program using
68 financial institutions in West Virginia to obtain certificates of deposit, loans approved by the
69 Legislature and any other programs authorized by the Legislature.

70 (f) In addition to the restrictions and conditions contained in this section, at no time shall
71 more than five percent of the Consolidated Fund be invested in securities issued by a single
72 private corporation or association.

73 ~~(1) At no time shall more than seventy-five percent of the Consolidated Fund be invested~~
74 ~~in any bond, note, debenture, commercial paper or other evidence of indebtedness of any private~~
75 ~~corporation or association;~~

76 ~~(2) At no time shall more than five percent of the Consolidated Fund be invested in~~
77 ~~securities issued by a single private corporation or association; and~~

78 ~~(3) At no time shall less than fifteen percent of the Consolidated Fund be invested in any~~
79 ~~direct obligation of or obligation guaranteed as to the payment of both principal and interest by~~
80 ~~the United States of America~~

81 (g) Securities purchased in compliance with this article that become noncompliant may be
82 retained upon recommendation of the investment manager of the security and the board
83 investment consultant.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to permit the Board of Treasury Investments to compensate appointed members for each meeting attended and to eliminate certain outdated and contradictory investment restrictions.

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