

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2023 REGULAR SESSION

Committee Substitute

for

House Bill 3111

By Delegates Linville, Cannon, Hanshaw (Mr. Speaker),

Phillips, Hardy, Summers, and Keaton

[Introduced January 27, 2023; Referred to the Committee on

Political Subdivisions then Technology and Infrastructure]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article,
2 designated §5B-2N-1 §5B-2N-2, and §5B-2N-3, relating to establishing Infrastructure
3 Ready Jurisdictions; establishing the requirement for this designation; establishing
4 rulemaking for these Infrastructure Ready Jurisdictions for the Department of Economic
5 Development; awarding an additional five percent preferential scoring for entities on
6 projects within these jurisdictions on all permissible grants; and providing that this is not
7 available within an uncertified municipality even if the surrounding county or counties are
8 certified.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2N. INFRASTRUCTURE READY JURISDICTIONS.

§5B-2N-1. Process.

1 (a) Any political subdivision of this state which refrains from enacting any permitting
2 requirements other than those contained in this Code may apply to the Department of Economic
3 Development for a designation as an Infrastructure Ready Jurisdiction.

4 (b) The Department of Economic Development is hereby authorized to promulgate
5 rules governing the process for certification as an Infrastructure Ready Jurisdiction.

§5B-2N-2. Benefits.

1 Any grant application for an infrastructure project, whether public or private, which is made
2 by any entity within the corporate boundaries of a political subdivision of this state which is certified
3 as an Infrastructure Ready Jurisdiction, shall receive 5 percent preferential scoring on all grants
4 permitted by or mandated by any provision of this Code, or by any portion of the Code of State
5 Regulations, unless such preferential scoring is explicitly forbidden by Federal laws or regulations,
6 or by any provision of this Code.

§5B-2N-3. Multiple Subdivisions.

1 The provisions of this article may not be utilized by applicants for projects situated within a
2 municipality which has not been certified as an Infrastructure Ready Jurisdiction, even if a
3 surrounding county or counties are so certified.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to establish Infrastructure Ready Jurisdictions; establish rulemaking; and award an additional five percent preferential scoring for projects within these jurisdictions on all permissible grants.

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