

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2023 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 3222

By Delegates Dillon, Longanacre, Butler, Ross, Dean,
and Hanna

[Introduced February 02, 2023; Referred to the
Committee on Education then Finance]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
 2 designated §18-9A-10a, relating to public school support; foundation allowances; creating
 3 the "Direct Foundation Funding Act"; providing that the foundation allowance for
 4 instructional funding shall be distributed directly and equally to teachers within districts;
 5 and requiring that students and parents receive a notice regarding digital technology use
 6 agreement that increased electronic technology use may lead to social, emotional, and
 7 psychological complications.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE	9A.	PUBLIC	SCHOOL	SUPPORT.
§18-9A-10a.		Direct	funding	act.

1 (a) This section shall be known and cited as the "Direct Foundation Funding Act".

2 (b) Foundation allowance for instructional funding shall be distributed directly and equally
 3 to teachers within districts.

4 (1) Districts shall establish a separate "Classroom Expense Account" for each teacher.

5 (2) Funds shall be deposited directly to the account proportionately from State of West
 6 Virginia accounts.

7 (3) Teachers may elect to have Faculty Senate funds deposited to the same account for
 8 convenience.

9 (c) A "Classroom Expense Account" shall be held in a teacher's name for exclusive use for
 10 classroom supplies and instructional materials by specified teacher. Teachers shall be issued a
 11 purchase card with which to make purchases from that account.

12 (1) Teachers shall have log-in access to view account balances online;

13 (2) Purchases made from "Classroom Expense Account" with a P-card shall be exempt
 14 from district vendor registration requirements;

15 (3) Purchases made from Classroom Expense Accounts shall be published online with a
 16 link to view from a district home web page.

17 (d) The following notice shall be provided to students and parents regarding digital
18 technology use agreement:

19 (1) Many students experience technical difficulties with digital devices. Also, a growing list
20 of research findings indicates that increased electronic technology use may lead to social,
21 emotional, and psychological complications. Moreover, students with special needs or students
22 with characteristics indicative of the autism spectrum may find that frequent use of electronic
23 and/or digital technological devices complicate their educational experiences and/or cause
24 emotional distress. In some cases, exposure to digital technology may exacerbate the amount of
25 observed symptoms.

26 (2) Any student or parent may request and receive a nonelectronic version of class work
27 assigned.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to create the "Direct Foundation Funding Act" relating to public school support, and providing that foundation allowances for instructional funding be distributed directly and equally to teachers. The bill also requires that students and parents receive a notice regarding digital technology use agreement that increased electronic technology use may lead to social, emotional, and psychological complications.

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