

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2023 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 263

By Senators Phillips and Smith

[Introduced January 17, 2023; referred
to the Committee on the Judiciary; and then to the
Committee on Finance]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
 2 designated §24-2-22, relating to requiring the Public Service Commission to be involved in
 3 all construction contracts between utility companies under the auspice of the commission
 4 and vendors.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. POWERS AND DUTIES OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

§24-2-22. Mandatory commission involvement in construction contracts.

1 (a) Any and all utility companies that are under the auspices of the Public Service
 2 Commission are required to have the Commission involved in the contract process for
 3 construction contracts between that utility company and vendors.

4 (b) Contracts shall be approved as to form by the Commission. A contract that requires
 5 more than six months for its fulfillment shall be filed with the State Auditor.

6 (c) When the director of the Commission has reasonable cause to believe that a contract
 7 provision violates terms set by the Commission, the director shall request the Commission to
 8 commence an action under this section against the contractor for the violation. Any action under
 9 this section is a civil action.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide that the Public Service Commission be involved in construction contracts between utility companies under the auspice of the Commission.

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