

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2024 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **House Bill 4333**

By Delegate C. Pritt

[Introduced January 10, 2024 ; Referred  
to the Committee on the Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,  
 2 designated §51-3-20, relating to clarifying that a raised seal is not a prerequisite for a court  
 3 order to be valid; and to clarify that electronic filing without a raised seal is a permissible  
 4 form of filing.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

**ARTICLE                    3.                    COURTS                    IN                    GENERAL.**  
**§51-3-20.                    Raised                    seal                    clarification.**

1            Unless otherwise preempted or precluded under federal law, a raised seal shall not be a  
 2 requirement for a court order to be valid in this state. Electronic filing shall be a permissible form of  
 3 filing without the necessity of a raised seal.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to clarify that a raised seal is not necessary for a court order to be valid and to clarify that electronic filing without a raised seal is permissible.

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