

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 4454

By Delegate Crouse

[Introduced January 10, 2024; Referred
to the Committee on Health and Human Resources]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
 2 designated §16-1-23; and to amend said code by adding thereto a new section, designated
 3 §16-2-19, all relating to prohibiting mask mandates by the State of West Virginia; and
 4 prohibiting local health departments in West Virginia from instituting any type of mandatory
 5 mask mandate or face covering requirement.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 1. STATE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM.

§16-1-23. Face covering and mask mandates prohibited.

1 The Governor and the state health officer may not implement any sort of mandatory face
 2 covering or mask requirement. The requirements of §61-6-22 of this code relating to the wearing of
 3 masks, hoods or face coverings shall still apply.

ARTICLE 2. LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH.

§16-2-19. Prohibition on face coverings and mask mandates.

1 Local boards of health in West Virginia shall not implement any mandatory face covering or
 2 mask requirement, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic or otherwise. The requirements of §61-
 3 6-22 of this code relating to the wearing of masks, hoods or face coverings shall still apply.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to prohibit a mask or face covering requirement by the State of West Virginia or by local boards of health in West Virginia.

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