

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2024 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **House Bill 4583**

By Delegate C. Pritt

[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 §16-39-9, relating to permitting parents or guardians visit a minor patient in a  
 3 health care facility.

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

**ARTICLE 39. PATIENT SAFETY ACT.**

**§16-39-9. Child's right to accompaniment by parents or guardians at medical appointments.**

1 (a) Notwithstanding a health care facility's visitation policy, a child has the right to be  
 2 accompanied by his or her parents or guardians to an appointment in a health care facility:  
 3 Provided, That visitation permitted by any health care facility may not be inconsistent with any  
 4 applicable federal law, rule, policy, or guidance in effect.

5 (b) A visitor shall comply with the applicable procedures established by the health care  
 6 facility.

7 (c) The health care facility may deny a visitor entry to the health care facility, may subject a  
 8 visitor to expulsion from the facility, or may permanently revoke visitation rights to a visitor who  
 9 does not comply with the applicable procedures established by the health care facility.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to establish a right for every parent or guardian of a patient in a health care facility to visit that patient.

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