

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Committee Substitute

for

House Bill 4620

By Delegate Foster

[Originating in the Committee on Health and Human
Resources; January 17, 2024]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §16-2-16 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to
2 food handler permit; removing the expiration date of a food handler permit; requiring local
3 health departments to adopt the minimum guidelines adopted by the bureau; and
4 permitting continuing education.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH.

§16-2-16. Food handler examinations and cards.

1 A food handler permit or card issued pursuant to the procedures put in place by a local
2 ~~county board of health department shall be valid for at least one year but not longer than three~~
3 ~~years. does not expire.~~ The permit or card shall be valid in all counties of this state, if the applicant
4 pays an additional fee not to exceed \$10. ~~If required,~~ A permit or card shall be obtained within thirty
5 days of a person being hired in a restaurant or other applicable food establishment. The Bureau for
6 Public Health shall ~~develop~~ adopt minimum guidelines for training programs for individuals
7 seeking a food handler permit or card that ~~may~~ shall be adopted by local ~~county~~ health
8 departments. A local board of health may require continuing education, if food handling guidelines
9 change, but may not charge a fee. ~~In lieu of state guidelines a local health department may use~~
10 ~~training courses developed by the American National Standards Institute or other nationally~~
11 ~~recognized entities for food safety training.~~

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to remove the expiration date of a food handler permit, and make all trainings uniform.

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