

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 5259

By Delegates Nestor, Martin, Marple, Sheedy, Steele,
Garcia, Kirby, Fluharty, C.Prittm, Akers and Young

[Introduced January 29, 2024; Referred to the
Committee on Banking and Insurance then the
Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §17D-4-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
2 to increasing required minimum insurance coverages as proof of financial responsibility.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 4. PROOF OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FUTURE.

§17D-4-2. "Proof of financial responsibility" defined.

1 As used in this chapter:

2 (a) "Proof of financial responsibility" means proof of ability to respond in damages for
3 liability, on account of accident occurring subsequent to the effective date of the proof, arising out
4 of the ownership, operation, maintenance or use of a motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer in the
5 amount of ~~\$20,000~~ \$25,000 because of bodily injury to or death of one person in any one accident,
6 and, subject to the limit for one person, in the amount of ~~\$40,000~~ \$50,000 because of bodily injury
7 to or death of two or more persons in any one accident, and in the amount of ~~\$10,000~~ \$25,000
8 because of injury to or destruction of property of others in any one accident.

9 (b) Beginning January 1, ~~2016~~ 2025, "proof of financial responsibility" means proof of
10 ability to respond in damages for liability, on account of accident occurring subsequent to the
11 effective date of the proof, arising out of the ownership, operation, maintenance, or use of a motor
12 vehicle, trailer or semitrailer in the amount of ~~\$25,000~~ \$50,000 because of bodily injury to or death
13 of one person in any one accident, and, subject to the limit for one person, in the amount of
14 ~~\$50,000~~ \$100,000 because of bodily injury to or death of two or more persons in any one accident,
15 and in the amount of ~~\$25,000~~ \$50,000 because of injury to or destruction of property of others in
16 any one accident: Provided, That proof of financial responsibility provided by an insurance policy
17 in effect on December 31, ~~2015~~ 2025 in the minimum amounts required in subdivision (a) of this
18 section shall continue to provide adequate proof of financial responsibility required by this chapter
19 until the policy expires or is renewed.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to increase required minimum insurance coverages as

proof of financial responsibility.

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