

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2024 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **House Bill 5318**

By Delegates Kelly, Hott, Ward, Kump, Fehrenbacher,  
Mallow, Hornby, Phillips, Jeffries, Pinson, and Kirby

[Introduced January 29, 2024; Referred to the  
Committee on the Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §30-29-13 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating  
 2 to municipal chief executive requirements; and clarifying that persons elected as municipal  
 3 police chiefs shall be certified law-enforcement officers.

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

**ARTICLE 29. LAW-ENFORCEMENT TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION.**

**§30-29-13. Chief executive requirements.**

1 Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the contrary, on or after July 1, 2018, any  
 2 person elected or appointed to serve as the chief executive of a municipal law-enforcement  
 3 agency shall be a certified, or certifiable as, a law-enforcement officer as provided in §30-29-5 of  
 4 this code: *Provided*, That chief executives of municipal law-enforcement agencies employed prior  
 5 to July 1, 2018, who are not certified law-enforcement officers are exempt from this requirement  
 6 for purposes of the position he or she holds as of that date.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to clarify that elected municipal police chiefs shall be certified law-enforcement officers.

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