WEST virginia legislature

2024 regular session

Introduced

House Bill 5375

By Delegate Worrell

[Introduced; Referred

to the Committee on ]

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article designated §­­­­­­5B-2P-1, all relating to creating the "Work Protection Act" prohibiting a state agency or local government from enacting or enforcing a universal basic income program.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2P. Work Protection Act.

**§5B-2P-1. Creating the Work Protection Act; purpose; definitions; prohibition on guaranteed income programs; and effective date.**

(a) *Short title*. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Work Protection Act".

(b) *Purpose*. The purpose of this act is to promote the value of work by prohibiting a state agency or local government from administering, enacting, or enforcing guaranteed income programs.

(c) *Definitions*. As used in this section:

(1) "Local government" means a county; a municipality, an incorporated town, or a village; or any other district or political subdivision of the state or an agency, board, or commission of the district or political subdivision of the state;

(2) "State agency" means an office, board, commission, department, council, bureau, or other agency of state government;

(3) "Universal basic income program" means a program that is not expressly required by federal law in which an individual receives a guaranteed cash payment regularly.

(d) *Prohibition on program*. Unless expressly authorized by state law, a state agency or a local government shall not enact or enforce, directly or indirectly, a universal basic income program.

(e) *Effective date.* This act shall take effect upon passage.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to create the Work Protection Act prohibiting a state agency or local government from enacting or enforcing a universal basic income program.

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