

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 146

BY SENATORS RUCKER, OLIVERIO, PHILLIPS, ROBERTS,

SWOPE, AND HAMILTON

[Introduced January 10, 2024]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
2 designated §18-5-19e, relating to requiring the State Superintendent of Schools to create
3 a taskforce to consider options for direct funding of adult education learning centers;
4 declaring legislative findings; providing for membership and meetings of the taskforce; and
5 establishing deadlines for the taskforce to be created, to begin its meetings, and for
6 submitting a report of recommendations to the Legislature.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 5. COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.

§18-5-19e. Adult education taskforce.

1 (a) The Legislature finds that:

2 (1) While adult learning centers are part of the West Virginia Department of Education,
3 that department is not obligated to fund these adult learning centers;

4 (2) Funding for adult learning centers derives its income from many areas without any
5 regularity;

6 (3) A taskforce to study and consider funding options, the existing funding sources, and
7 the best approach to provide direct funding for the adult learning centers would stabilize the
8 regularity of funding these centers.

9 (b) The State Superintendent of Schools shall establish in the West Virginia Department
10 of Education a taskforce to consider options for direct funding of adult education learning centers.

11 (c) The taskforce shall include at a minimum the State Superintendent of Schools, or a
12 designee of the State Superintendent of Schools, the head of the adult education learning centers,
13 and geographically diverse representatives from the community, including, but not limited to,
14 representation from business and the community college system, appointed by the State
15 Superintendent of Schools.

16 (d) The State Superintendent of Schools shall determine the number of members of the
17 taskforce and eligibility to serve.

18 (e) The meetings of the taskforce shall be open to the public and follow the Open
19 Governmental Meetings Act.

20 (f) The taskforce shall be created and begin its meetings on or before July 1, 2024, and
21 submit a report of recommendations to the Legislature by December 1, 2024.