## WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

#### **2025 REGULAR SESSION**

#### ENROLLED

#### **Committee Substitute**

for

### House Bill 2499

BY DELEGATE E. PRITT

[Passed April 10, 2025; in effect July 1, 2025]

1 AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section. 2 designated §18A-3-13, relating to requiring inperson training for principals employed in 3 the public schools, appropriate central office personnel, superintendents and county board 4 of education members on the Individuals with Disability Education Act, federal regulations, 5 and West Virginia State Board of Education Policy 2419 "Regulations for the Education of 6 Students with Exceptionalities"; specifying other information the training is to include; 7 specifying when training is to occur; requiring each principal and county board member to inform teachers, in person, of their rights and listing minimum information this is to include; 8 and requiring in every Individualized Education Program meeting certain information be 9 10 explained to the guardian of a child.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

# ARTICLE 3. TRAINING, CERTIFICATION, LICENSING, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

## §18A-3-13. Training course for principals in public schools; informing teachers of due process; IEP format.

(a) *Training.* – Principals who are employed in public schools, appropriate central office
personnel, superintendent, and county board of education members shall receive in-person
training on the Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA), federal regulations and West
Virginia State Board of Education Policy 2419 "Regulations for the Education of Students with
Exceptionalities". Specifically, this training must include the understanding of a students' Least
Restrictive Environment (LRE), student discipline procedures and requirements, and parental
rights and due process safeguards. This training shall also include the following information:

8 (1) Maximum class size for instructional periods by programmatic level and level of service
9 needs for students with disabilities;

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10 (2) Extenuating circumstances for submitting a waiver request when student numbers
11 exceed staffing ratios;

(3) Teacher's rights for advocating for students, procedural rights documentation, and all
 protections set forth under §18-20-1c;

(4) Classroom teachers' rights and protections that they may not be reprimanded foradvocating for their student(s); and

(5) Information related to local advocacy agencies and local United States Department of
 Education funded advocacy agencies.

(b) *Time period.* – This training shall be conducted for principal, appropriate central office
personnel, Superintendents, and county board of education members before December 31, 2025,
and following subsequent revisions to IDEA, federal regulations and/or West Virginia State Board
of Education Policy 2419 "Regulations for the Education of Students with Exceptionalities". Newly
employed personnel and elected or appointed county board of education members shall receive
this training within 30 days thereof.

- (c) *Teacher protections and rights.* Each principal and county board members shall
   inform teachers, in person, of their rights; including but not limited to:
- 26 (1) The documentation process within a 45-day grading period for teachers;

(2) The rights of teachers when it comes to informing parents of local advocates who can
 come to the Individualized Education Program ("IEP") meetings;

29 (3) Protection methods in place for teachers who advocate for student placement; and

30 (4) All teacher protections and rights set forth under §18-20-1c.

(d) *Individualized Education Program meeting format.* – In every Individualized Education
Program meeting, a representative of the school shall explain to the guardian of the child, verbally,
the process for identifying a student, the parents or guardians due process rights, teacher
protections and procedural rights as set forth under §18-20-1c and local advocacy centers
information and points of contact.

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The Clerk of the House of Delegates and the Clerk of the Senate hereby certify that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Clerk of the House of Delegates

Clerk of the Senate

Originated in the House of Delegates.

In effect July 1, 2025.

Speaker of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

The within is .....

Day of ....., 2025.

Governor