



West Virginia Senate

Committee on the Judiciary

Minutes for January 25, 2024, 3:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on the Judiciary met on January 25, 2024, 3:00 PM in Room 208-W.

Members present: Senators Trump, Weld, Azinger, Barrett, Caputo, Deeds, Hamilton, Hunt, Martin, Maynard, Rucker, Stover, Stuart, Takubo, Taylor, Woelfel

Members absent: Senators Swope

A silent roll call being taken, the presence of a quorum was established.

On motion of Senator Weld, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

S. B. 477 - Prohibiting public disclosure of personal information on internet.

J. A. Curia, Counsel, explained the bill, the purpose of the proposed committee substitute, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Jim Kaufman, President and COO, West Virginia Hospital Association, was administered the oath prescribed by Senate Rule 28a by Chairman Trump, addressed the committee, and responded to questions. (See attached oath.)

With leave of the committee, Abby Reale, Marshall Health Network, was administered the oath prescribed by Senate Rule 28a by Chairman Trump, addressed the committee, and responded to questions. (See attached oath.)

Senator Stuart moved to amend the committee substitute to include law enforcement, fire service workers, EMS workers within the definition of health care workers in 25 (a) line 2 and 14d (a) line 2.

Senator Taylor proposed a friendly amendment to apply to all WV workers. It is the opinion of the Chair that the amendment is outside the scope of the existing amendment.

Stuart reformed his amendment to be defined as first responders as defined in 55-7-26 (a).

Senator Caputo raised a point of order asking if debate on the amendment was closed. It is the opinion of the Chair ruled that debate was closed.

Senator Stuart withdrew his amendment.

On motion of Senator Stuart the committee amended the committee substitute on page 1, section 25, subsection (a), line 6, after the word the word “care,” and inserting the words “first responder” and on page 2, section 14d, subsection (a), line 6, after the word the word “care,” and inserting the words “first responder”.

Senator Taylor moved to amend the committee substitute to apply to all WV workers.

The Chair decided that the amendment is not in order. The title of the bill is specific, and the proposed amendment is outside the fundamental scope of the bill.

The question being on agreeing to the committee substitute, as amended, the same was put, and the committee substitute was agreed to.

On motion of Senator Weld, the committee reported the committee substitute to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass as amended.

S. B. 320 - Removing requirement for wineries to serve food when serving wine.

Tom Smith, Counsel, explained the bill, the purpose of the proposed committee substitute, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Anoop Bhasin, General Counsel, West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administration and Managing General Counsel, West Virginia Department of Revenue, was administered the oath prescribed by Senate Rule 28a by Chairman Trump, addressed the committee, and responded to questions. (See attached oath.)

On motion of Senator Barrett, the committee amended the committee substitute to make necessary changes to the appropriate code sections for the licensure changes be permissible for out of state wineries to participate in fairs and festivals.

The question being on agreeing to the committee substitute, as amended, the same was put, and the committee substitute was agreed to, as amended.

On motion of Senator Weld, the committee reported the committee substitute to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass as amended.

On motion of Senator Weld, the committee adopted the title amendment.

H. B. 4252 - Uniform Recognition and Enforcement of Canadian Domestic Violence Protective Orders Act.

Gordon Mowen, Counsel, explained the bill, and responded to questions.

On motion of Senator Weld, the committee reported the bill to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass.

S. JR. 5 – Homestead Exemption for Disabled Veterans Amendment.

Gordon Mowen, Counsel, explained the resolution, the purpose of the proposed committee substitute, and responded to questions.

The question being on agreeing to the committee substitute, the same was put, and the committee substitute was agreed to.

On motion of Senator Weld, the committee reported the committee substitute to the full Senate with the recommendation that it be adopted, but first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On Motion of Senator Weld the committee adjourned.



Charles S. Trump
Chair



Beverly Douglas
Clerk/Analyst

The Senate of West Virginia



Testimony taken this 25th day of January, 2024, in
the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

"I solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony I shall give shall be
the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me
God."

Jim Kaufman

Print Witness Name

[Signature]

Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Charles S. Trump

Print Member Name

[Signature]

Sign Member Name

The Senate of West Virginia



Testimony taken this 25th day of January, 20 24, in
the Senate Committee on The Judiciary.

"I solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony I shall give shall be
the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me
God."

Abby Rask

Print Witness Name

[Signature]

Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Charles S. Trump

Print Member Name

[Signature]

Sign Member Name

The Senate of West Virginia



Testimony taken this 25th day of January, 2024, in
the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

"I solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony I shall give shall be
the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me
God."

Anoop Bhasin

Print Witness Name

[Signature]

Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Charles S. Trump

Print Member Name

[Signature]

Sign Member Name