



West Virginia House of Delegates

Standing Committee on Education

Minutes for March 03, 2025, 1:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on Education met on March 03, 2025, 1:00 PM, in the House Education Committee Room 432-M.

Members present: Delegates Barnhart, Campbell, Chiarelli, Clark, Coop-Gonzalez, Crouse, DeVault, Dittman, Ellington, Garcia, Hamilton, Hornby, Jennings, Kimble, Mallow, Miller, Pritt, Pushkin, Shamblin, Statler, Stephens, Toney, Vance, Ward, B., White, Willis.

Members absent: None.

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

On motion of Delegate Statler, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Chairman Ellington then recognized Delegate Dittman for the purpose of offering a subcommittee report from the Higher Education Subcommittee. The report was received.

Next, Chairman Ellington recognized Delegate Toney for the purpose of offering a subcommittee report from the Public Education Subcommittee. The report was received.

With no bills on Markup and Passage stage the committee proceeded to Committee Hearing stage. The first bill on taken up was HB2166 - Establishing the behavioral health workforce education initiative at the Higher Education Policy Commission. Stepping into the Chair position Vice-Chair Statler recognized Chairman Ellington to present the bill. With no questions or others wishing to speak, HB 2166 was moved to Markup and Passage.

The next bill taken up was HB2614 - To allow money paid to state employees to go to their estate if they pass away before their retirement date. Chair Ellington recognized Delegate Toney to present the bill. With no questions or others wishing to speak, HB 2614 was moved to Markup and Passage.

Next, was Committee Substitute for HB2411 - To provide and change graduation requirements and change duties relating to academic content standards. Chair Ellington recognized Delegate Hornby to explain the bill. Following his explanation Delegate Hornby answered questions from the committee. With no others wishing to speak, HB2411 was moved to Markup and Passage.

Next, was Committee Substitute for HB2190 - Including Potomac State College in the definition of community and technical college education program for participation in the "Learn and Earn Program." Stepping into the Chair position Vice-Chair Statler recognized Chairman Ellington to present the bill. Chairman Ellington then answered questions from the committee. With no questions or others wishing to speak, HB 2190 was moved to Markup and Passage.

Last on the agenda was HB2187 - Permit teachers in K-12 schools be authorized to carry concealed firearms as a designated school protection officer. Chair Ellington recognized Delegate Doug Smith to present the bill. Delegate Smith then answered questions from the committee. Chair Ellington then recognized those wishing to speak on the bill. First was Jim Brown, Executive Director, WV School Board Association. After speaking Mr. Brown answered questions from the committee. Last, Jim McJunkin, MD with Concerned Citizens from WV gave comment.

With no further business to come before the Committee and on a motion of Delegate Statler the committee adjourned.

Joe Ellington

Committee Chair

Melinda Ryan Swagger

Committee Clerk