



West Virginia House of Delegates

Standing Committee on Energy and Public Works

Minutes for March 18, 2025, 3:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on Energy and Public Works met on March 18, 2025, 3:00 PM, in the House Judiciary Committee Room 410-M.

Members present: Delegates Anderson B., Bridges, Campbell, Crouse, DeVault, Dillon, Eldridge, Fehrenbacher, Green, Hansen, Hillenbrand, Holstein, Howell, Leavitt, Linville, Lucas, Moore, Parsons, Street, Young, Zatezalo.

Members absent: Delegates Cannon, Riley, and Steele.

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

On motion of Delegate Zatezalo, the minutes of the previous meeting, March 17, 2025, were approved.

MARKUP & PASSAGE:

House Bill 2948, Relating to obtaining title to abandoned or junked motor vehicles abandoned on the property or place of business of an automobile dealer.

Chairman Anderson recognized committee counsel, Brian Casto, for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Anderson called for questions of counsel. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson called for amendments to the bill. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson recognized Vice-Chairman Zatezalo for purposes of making a motion for passage of the bill.

Vice-Chairman Zatezalo moved to report House Bill 2948 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. Chairman Anderson called for discussion on the motion. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion for passage of the bill. Chairman Anderson declared the motion was adopted and the bill would be reported as moved.

Committee Substitute for House Bill 2987, Relating to the Consumer Data Protection Act.

Committee Substitute for House Bill 2987 was laid over from a previous meeting.

Chairman Anderson called for any further questions of counsel. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson called for any further discussion. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson recognized Vice-Chairman Zatezalo for the purposes of making a motion for the passage of the committee substitute.

Vice-Chairman Zatezalo moved to report the Committee Substitute for House Bill 2987 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass, but that it first be reported to the Committee on

the Judiciary. Chairman Anderson called for discussion on the motion. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion for the passage of the committee substitute. Chairman Anderson declared the motion was adopted and the committee substitute, would be reported as moved.

After the meeting and with both Chairs having conferred on the matter, the bill will be reported to the floor as moved with the second reference of the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary dispensed with.

Committee Substitute for House Bill 3072, Creating Super two highways in West Virginia.

Chairman Anderson recognized Vice-Chairman Zatezalo for purposes of making a motion. Vice-Chairman Zatezalo moved for the committee to consider the proposed committee substitute in lieu of the introduced bill. Chairman Anderson put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was adopted and the committee proceeded to consideration of the committee substitute.

Chairman Anderson recognized committee counsel, Daniel Baker, for purposes of explaining the committee substitute. Chairman Anderson called for questions of counsel. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson called for amendments to the committee substitute. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson recognized Vice-Chairman Zatezalo for purposes of making a motion for passage of the committee substitute.

Vice-Chairman Zatezalo moved to report the Committee Substitute for House Bill 3072 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. Chairman Anderson called for discussion on the motion. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion for the passage of the committee substitute. Chairman Anderson declared the motion was adopted and the committee substitute would be reported as moved.

Committee Substitute for House Bill 3336, Well Plugging methods.

Chairman Anderson recognized Vice-Chairman Zatezalo for purposes of making a motion. Vice-Chairman Zatezalo moved for the committee to consider the proposed committee substitute in lieu of the introduced bill. Chairman Anderson put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was adopted and the committee proceeded to consideration of the committee substitute.

Chairman Anderson recognized committee counsel, Robert Akers, for purposes of explaining the committee substitute. Chairman Anderson called for questions of counsel. Questions from the committee members followed. With leave of the committee and having been previously placed under oath, Mr. Jason Wandling, General Counsel, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, answered questions from the committee members. Chairman Anderson called for amendments to the committee substitute. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson recognized Vice-Chairman Zatezalo for purposes of making a motion for passage of the committee substitute.

Vice-Chairman Zatezalo moved to report the Committee Substitute for House Bill 3336 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. Chairman Anderson called for discussion on the motion. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion for the passage of the committee substitute. Chairman Anderson declared the motion was adopted and the committee substitute would be reported as moved.

Committee Substitute for House Bill 2960, Allowing the Division of Highways to contract out snow removal to private companies on secondary roads in Monongalia and Preston counties.

Committee Substitute for House Bill 2960 was laid over from a previous meeting.

Chairman Anderson recognized committee counsel, Daniel Baker, for purposes of explaining the committee substitute. Chairman Anderson called for questions of counsel. Questions from the committee members followed. Chairman Anderson called for amendments to the committee substitute. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson recognized Vice-Chairman Zatezalo for the purposes of making a motion for the passage of the committee substitute.

Vice-Chairman Zatezalo moved to report the Committee Substitute for House Bill 2960 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. Chairman Anderson called for discussion on the motion. Discussion by the committee members followed. Delegate Moore moved to amend the committee substitute and asked for unanimous consent for submission of an amendment. Chairman Anderson put the question before the committee and with no objection, put the committee at ease for the purposes of Delegate Moore to prepare her amendment.

Chairman called the meeting to order and recognized counsel to explain the amendment. Chairman Anderson called for questions of counsel on the amendment. Questions by the committee members followed. Chairman Anderson called for any further questions of counsel on the proposed amendment. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion made by Delegate Moore on her proposed amendment. Chairman Anderson called for discussion on the motion. Discussion by the committee members followed. Chairman Anderson put the question before the committee on adoption of the amendment and declared the amendment adopted. Chairman Anderson called for any further amendments. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson recognized Vice-Chairman Zatezalo for the purposes of making a motion for passage of the committee substitute.

Vice-Chairman Zatezalo moved to report the Committee Substitute for House Bill 2960 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass as amended. Chairman Anderson put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion for the passage of the committee substitute to be reported to the floor as amended.

Chairman Anderson called for discussion on the motion. Hearing none, Chairman Anderson put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. Chairman Anderson declared the motion was adopted and the committee substitute, as amended, would be reported as moved.

Chairman Anderson recognized Delegate Linville. With leave of the committee Delegate Linville spoke to the bill.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS:

Originating House Bill [3503], Relating to regulation of commercial horticulture under Water Pollution Control Act.

Chairman Anderson recognized Delegate Hornby as lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the originating bill. Delegate Hornby explained the originating bill. Chairman Anderson called for questions of Delegate Hornby. Questions and discussion by the committee members

followed. Chairman Anderson recognized committee counsel, Robert Akers, to explain the originating bill. Chairman Anderson called for questions of counsel. Questions and discussion by the committee members followed. Chairman Anderson advanced the bill to markup and passage.

House Bill 2736, Relating generally to Underground Facilities Damage prevention.

Chairman Anderson recognized Delegate Linville as lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Delegate Linville explained the bill. Chairman Anderson called for questions of Delegate Linville. Hearing no questions or discussion by the committee members, Chairman Anderson advanced the bill to markup and passage.

House Concurrent Resolution 40, A resolution to task the Economic Development Authority to find land around Flatwoods and funding and businesses to make an area similar to Pigeon Forge to increase tourism and entertainment.

Chairman Anderson recognized Delegate Vance as lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the resolution. Delegate Vance explained the resolution. Chairman Anderson called for questions of Delegate Vance. Questions and discussion by the committee members followed. Chairman Anderson advanced the resolution to markup and passage.

House Concurrent Resolution 17, To place Purple Heart Signs at the entrances to the state.

Chairman Anderson recognized Delegate Heckert as lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the resolution. Delegate Heckert explained the resolution. Chairman Anderson called for questions of Delegate Heckert. Questions and discussion by the committee members followed. Chairman Anderson advanced the resolution to markup and passage.

On Motion of Delegate Zatezalo the committee adjourned.

E.W. Anderson B.

Committee Chair

Mari Humphrey

Committee Clerk