



# West Virginia House of Delegates

## Standing Committee on Finance

Minutes for April 07, 2025, 9:00 AM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on Finance met on April 07, 2025, 9:00 AM, in the House Finance Committee Room 460-M.

Members present: Delegates Anderson B., Barnhart, Canterbury, Cooper, Criss, Dittman, Ellington, Fehrenbacher, Gearheart, Hite, Horst, Hott, Jeffries, Linville, Mazzocchi, Riley, Rohrbach, Statler, Williams, Worrell, Hornbuckle.

Members absent: Delegates Cannon, Hall, Howell, G., and Toney .

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

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

### Markup and Passage

**Com. Sub. for S. B. 722**, Creating WV Short Line Railroad Modernization Act.

Alice Chakmakian, House Finance Counsel, was recognized to explain the bill.

Vice-Chairman Riley moved Committee Amendment for SB 722. Amendment adopted.

Questions by members were asked to the counsel.

Vice-Chairman Riley moved Committee Substitute for SB 722 as Amended be reported to the floor with recommendation that it do pass. The motion carried.

**S. B. 876**, Terminating certain requirements for Tax Commissioner to submit reports, publish information, and provide notice.

Mark McOwen, House Finance Counsel, was recognized to explain the bill.

Vice-Chairman Riley moved SB 876 be reported to the floor with recommendation that it do pass. The motion carried.

**H. B. 3356**, Supplemental Appropriation - Education - Hope Scholarship.

Richard Anderson, Budget Analyst, was recognized to introduce the bill.

Vice-Chairman Riley moved HB 3356 be reported to the floor with recommendation that it do pass. The motion carried.

**H. B. 3357**, Supplemental Appropriation - Lottery Surplus - Hope Scholarship

Richard Anderson, Budget Analyst, was recognized to introduce the bill.

Vice-Chairman Riley moved HB 3357 be reported to the floor with recommendation that it do pass. Discussion by members relating to HB 3357. The motion carried.

**H. B. 3360**, Supplemental Appropriation - EDA Bridge Loan Fund

Stella Dunn, Budget Analyst, was recognized to introduce the bill.

Vice-Chairman Riley moved HB 3360 be reported to the floor with recommendation that it do pass. The motion carried.

**H. B. 3369**, Supplemental Appropriation - Education - Enrollment & Safety

Richard Anderson, Budget Analyst, was recognized to introduce the bill.

Vice-Chairman Riley moved Committee Substitute for HB 3369 be reported to the floor with recommendation that it do pass. Discussion by members relating to HB 3369. The motion carried.

### **Committee Hearing**

**Com. Sub. for S. B. 35**, Permitting campus police officers to participate in Deputy Sheriffs Retirement System.

Alice Chakmakian, House Finance Counsel, was recognized to explain the bill.

Questions by members were asked to the counsel.

Matthew Swain, Captain of the West Virginia University Police Department, was sworn in under oath by the Chairman. Mr. Swain spoke to the bill.

Questions by members were asked to the representative.

This completes the Hearing stage of the bill.

**Com. Sub. for S. B. 76**, Increasing WV Natural Resources Police Officer Retirement System accrued benefit for certain members.

Alice Chakmakian, House Finance Counsel, was recognized to explain the bill.

Questions by members were asked to the counsel.

Brett McMillion, Director of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, having been previously sworn before the Committee, the witness was continued under his previous oath (oath on file).

Questions by members were asked to the representative.

Kenneth Woodson, Actuary for the West Virginia Consolidated Public Retirement Board, was sworn in under oath by the Chairman. Mr. Woodson spoke to the bill.

Questions by members were asked to the representative.

This completes the Hearing stage of the bill.

**Com. Sub. for S. B. 128**, Preventing courts from ordering services at higher rate than Medicaid.

Mark McOwen, House Finance Counsel, was recognized to explain the bill.

This completes the Hearing stage of the bill.

**S. B. 561**, Relating to Uniform Special Deposits Act.

Alice Chakmakian, House Finance Counsel, was recognized to explain the bill.

Questions by members were asked to the counsel.

Mark Adkins, Lobbyist for Community Bankers Association of West Virginia, having been previously sworn before the Committee, the witness was continued under his previous oath (oath on file).

Questions by members were asked to the representative.

This completes the Hearing stage of the bill.

**Com. Sub. for S. B. 576**, Authorizing fixed odds racing in horse and dog racing.

Mark McOwen, House Finance Counsel, was recognized to explain the bill.

John Myers, Director of the West Virginia Lottery, having been previously sworn before the Committee, the witness was continued under his previous oath (oath on file).

Questions by members were asked to the representative.

This completes the Hearing stage of the bill.

**S. B. 652**, Expanding cardiac arrest provisions to be applicable to elementary schools.

Mark McOwen, House Finance Counsel, was recognized to explain the bill.

Questions by members were asked to the counsel.

This completes the Hearing stage of the bill.

**Com. Sub. for S. B. 677**, Increasing fees charged by Commissioner of Securities for each offering.

Alice Chakmakian, House Finance Counsel, was recognized to explain the bill.

Questions by members were asked to the counsel.

Steve Caudill, Chief Counsel for the West Virginia State Auditor's Office, was sworn in under oath by the Chairman. Mr. Caudill spoke to the bill.

Questions by members were asked to the representative.

This completes the Hearing stage of the bill.

**Com. Sub. for S. B. 825**, Permitting higher education institutions enter agreements with non-profit organizations for economic development and job creation.

Mark McOwen, House Finance Counsel, was recognized to explain the bill.

Richie Heath, Government Affairs for Marshall University, was sworn in under oath by the Chairman. Mr. Heath spoke to the bill.

Questions by members were asked to the representative.

This completes the Hearing stage of the bill.

**Com. Sub. for S. B. 848**, Enacting bank protections for eligible adults from financial exploitation.

Alice Chakmakian, House Finance Counsel, was recognized to explain the bill.

Questions by members were asked to the counsel.

Steve Broadwater, West Virginia Association of Justice, having been previously sworn before the Committee, the witness was continued under his previous oath (oath on file).

Questions by members were asked to the representative.

Mark Adkins, Lobbyist for Community Bankers Association of West Virginia, having been previously sworn before the Committee, the witness was continued under his previous oath (oath on file).

Questions by members were asked to the representative.

Angela Vance, American Association of Retired Persons (AARP having been previously sworn before the Committee, the witness was continued under her previous oath (oath on file). Ms. Vance spoke to the bill.

This completes the Hearing stage of the bill.

Vice-Chairman Riley moved the committee recess until 2:00 PM. The motion carried.

**Com. Sub. for S. B. 632**, *Relating to surprise billing of out-of-network ambulance services.*

*This completes the Hearing stage of the bill.*

*On Motion of Delegate Riley the committee adjourned.*

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Vernon Criss

Committee Chair

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Steve Young

House Finance Clerk