



West Virginia House of Delegates

Standing Committee on the Judiciary

Minutes for February 26, 2025, 9:00 AM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on the Judiciary met on Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at 9:00 AM, in the House Judiciary Committee Room with Delegate Akers in the Chair.

Members present: Delegates Butler, Ferrell, Flanigan, Fluharty, Funkhouser, Hansen, Hillenbrand, Holstein, Hornby, Jennings, Kelly, D., Kimble, Kump, Mallow, Marple, Martin, Maynor, Ridenour, Roop, Shamblin, Ward, B., Zatezalo and Chairman Akers.

Members absent: Delegates Heckert, Phillips.

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

On motion of Vice-Chairman Maynor, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Chairman Akers recognized the clerk for purposes of receiving subcommittee reports:

The House Subcommittee on Homeland Security has had under consideration House Bill 2511 and reports the same back to the Standing Committee on the Judiciary.

House Bill 2117, Relating to when Mail In Ballots are Due

Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion. Vice-Chairman Maynor moved for the committee to consider the proposed committee substitute in lieu of the introduced version. Chairman Akers 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 Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the committee substitute. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Questions and discussion from the committee members followed. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the committee substitute. Hearing none, Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Committee Substitute for House Bill 2117 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was adopted and the committee substitute will be reported as moved.

House Bill 2129, Creating the Parents Bill of Rights

Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion. Vice-Chairman Maynor moved for the committee to consider the proposed committee substitute in lieu of the introduced version. Chairman Akers 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 Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the committee substitute. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Questions and discussion from the committee members followed. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the committee substitute. Hearing none, Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Committee Substitute for House Bill 2129 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was adopted and the committee substitute will be reported as moved.

Committee Substitute for House Bill 2217, Relating to penalties for conspiracy to commit murder

Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion. Vice-Chairman Maynor moved for the committee to consider the proposed committee substitute for the committee substitute for the bill. Chairman Akers 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 for the committee substitute.

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the committee substitute for the committee substitute. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the committee substitute. Hearing none, Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Committee Substitute for the Committee Substitute for House Bill 2217 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was adopted and the committee substitute will be reported as moved.

House Bill 2362, Relating to recognizing the law-enforcement powers of correctional officers employed by the Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the bill. Hearing none, Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report House Bill 2362 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was adopted and the committee substitute will be reported as moved.

House Bill 2360, Clarifying the victims of crimes against law-enforcement officers

Chairman Akers recognized Delegate Kelly as the lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for questions of Delegate Kelly. Chairman Akers advanced the bill to markup and discussion.

House Bill 2434, Relating to establishing the Stop Squatters Act

Chairman Akers recognized Delegate Hornby as the lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for questions of Delegate Hornby. Questions and discussion from the committee members followed. Chairman Akers advanced the bill to markup and discussion.

House Bill 2437, Clarification of penalties for offenses involving Fentanyl

Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor as a cosponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for questions of Vice-Chairman Maynor. Questions and discussion from the committee members followed. Chairman Akers advanced the bill to markup and discussion.

House Bill 2511, Relating to charitable bingo and alcohol sales and consumption while such bingo is taking places

Chairman Akers recognized Delegate Linville as the lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for questions of Delegate Linville. Questions and discussion from the committee members followed. Chairman Akers advanced the bill to markup and discussion.

On Motion of Vice-Chairman Maynor the committee adjourned.

Delegate JB Akers
Chairman

Mr. Daniel Osborne
Senior Clerk