



West Virginia House of Delegates

Standing Committee on the Judiciary

Minutes for April 09, 2025, 9:00 AM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on the Judiciary met on Wednesday, April 09, 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, Heckert, Hillenbrand, Holstein, Hornby, Jennings, Kelly, D., Kimble, Kump, Mallow, Marple, Martin, Maynor, Phillips, Ridenour, Roop, Shamblin, Ward, B., Zatezalo, and Chairman Akers.

Members absent: None.

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.

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 102, Modifying form of certain deeds

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

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the proposed committee amendment. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the proposed committee amendment. Hearing none, Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion to amend the bill. The motion was adopted and the amendment was approved. Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 102 to the floor, with amendment, with the recommendation that it do pass as amended. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion to report the bill. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers ordered the bill to be reported as moved.

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 196, Lauren's Law

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

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the proposed committee amendment. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the proposed committee amendment. Hearing none, Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion to amend the bill. The motion was adopted and the amendment was approved. Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 196 to the floor, with amendment, with the recommendation that it do pass as amended. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion to report the bill. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers ordered the bill to be reported as moved.

Senate Bill 280, Displaying official US motto in public schools

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. On motion the House Committee on Education, an amendment to the bill was offered.

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the proposed amendment. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the proposed amendment. On motion from Vice-Chairman Maynor, an amendment to the amendment was offered.

Without objection, Chairman Akers recognized counsel to explain the proposed amendment. Chairman Akers called for questions regarding the proposed amendment. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion to amend the amendment. The motion was adopted and the proposed amendment to the proposed amendment was approved.

Chairman Akers called for further amendments to the proposed amendment. Hearing none, Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the original motion to amend the bill. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. The motion was adopted and the proposed amendment to the bill was approved. Chairman Akers called for further amendments to the bill. Hearing none, Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Senate Bill 280 to the floor, with amendment, with the recommendation that it do pass as amended. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion to report the bill. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers ordered the bill to be reported as moved.

Senate Bill 483, Increasing civil penalties for failure to file required campaign finance reports

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

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the proposed committee amendment. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Questions from the committee members followed. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the proposed committee amendment. Hearing none,

Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion to amend the bill. The motion was adopted and the amendment was approved. Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Senate Bill 483 to the floor, with amendment, with the recommendation that it do pass as amended. Chairman Akers recognized Delegate Kump for purposes of making a motion. Delegate Kump moved to table the bill. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was lost and the bill would not be tabled.

Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion to report the bill. Discussion from the committee members followed. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion to report the bill. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers ordered the bill to be reported as moved.

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 488, Clarifying definition of electioneering

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. On motion from Delegate Funkhouser, an amendment to the bill was offered.

Delegate Funkhouser asked for unanimous consent to explain the proposed amendment. Without objection, Chairman Akers recognized Delegate Funkhouser to explain the amendment to the bill. Chairman Akers called for questions regarding the amendment to the bill. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the amendment. Hearing none, Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion to amend the bill. The motion was adopted and the proposed amendment to the bill was approved. Chairman Akers called for further amendments to the bill. Hearing none, Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 488 to the floor, with amendment, with the recommendation that it do pass as amended. 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 Chairman Akers ordered the bill to be reported as moved.

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 531, Relating to offenses of assault and battery on athletic officials

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

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the proposed committee amendment. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the proposed committee amendment. Hearing none, Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion to amend the bill. The motion was adopted and the amendment was approved. Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 531 to the floor, with amendment, with the recommendation that it do pass as amended. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion to report the bill. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers ordered the bill to be reported as moved.

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 124, Reducing statute of limitations on actions to recover on oral and written contracts

Chairman Akers recognized Delegate Mallow for purposes of making a motion. Delegate Mallow moved for the committee to consider the proposed committee amendment to the bill. 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 proceeded to consideration of the committee amendment.

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the proposed committee amendment. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the proposed committee amendment. Hearing none, Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion to amend the bill. The motion was adopted and the amendment was approved. Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 124 to the floor, with amendment, with the recommendation that it do pass as amended. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Discussion from the committee members followed. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion to report the bill. The motion was lost and Chairman Akers declared the bill was rejected.

On Motion of Vice-Chairman Maynor, the committee adjourned.

Delegate JB Akers
Committee Chair

Mr. Daniel Osborne
Senior Clerk