



West Virginia Senate

Committee on Judiciary

Minutes for March 03, 2025, 3:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on Judiciary met on March 03, 2025, 3:00 PM in Room 208-W.

Members present: Senators Stuart, Willis, Azinger, Chapman, Charnock, Deeds, Fuller, Hart, Helton, Rose, Rucker, Tarr, Taylor, Weld, Garcia

Members absent: Senators Bartlett, Martin

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

On motion of Senator Willis, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

S. B. 589 - Providing pay increases to members of judiciary.

J. A. Curia, Counsel, explained the bill, the purpose of the proposed committee substitute, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Stacy Nowicki-Eldridge, Circuit Judge of Ninth Circuit of West Virginia, addressed the committee, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Jean Ann Luikart, Putnam County Magistrate, addressed the committee, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Brittany Ranson Stonestreet, Kanawha County Family Court Judge, addressed the committee, and responded to questions.

Senator Tarr moved to amend the committee substitute on page 3, on lines 11-13 and lines 20-23, by restoring the stricken language and removing the new language.

With leave of the committee, Keith Hoover, Administrative Director, Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia, was administered the oath prescribed by Senate Rule 28a by Chairman Stuart, addressed the committee, and responded to questions. (See attached oath.)

Senator Tarr withdrew his amendment.

Senator Tarr moved to amend line 13, after the word “Appeals” by inserting the words “but not to exceed \$42,576”.

Senator Tarr withdrew his amendment

Senator Tarr moved to amend the committee substitute on page 3, on lines 11-13 and lines 20-23, by restoring the stricken language and removing the new language.

The same was put and rejected.

The question being on agreeing to the committee substitute, the same was put, and the committee substitute was agreed to.

On motion of Senator Willis, the committee reported the committee substitute to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass, but first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

S. B. 622 - Authorizing compensation for certain lower court staff.

J. A. Curia, Counsel, explained the bill, the purpose of the proposed committee substitute, and responded to questions.

The question being on agreeing to the committee substitute, the same was put, and the committee substitute was agreed to.

On motion of Senator Willis, the committee reported the committee substitute to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass, but first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

S. B. 503 - Allowing sheriffs to appoint more than one chief deputy with consent of county commission.

Kyler Carlisle, Law Extern, explained the bill, the purpose of the proposed committee substitute, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Frank Priddy, Raleigh County Sheriff, addressed the committee, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Greg Duckworth, Raleigh County Commissioner, District III Representative, addressed the committee, and responded to questions.

The question being on agreeing to the committee substitute, the same was put, and the committee substitute was agreed to.

On motion of Senator Willis, the committee reported the committee substitute to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass.

On Motion of Senator Willis the committee adjourned.



Michael B. Stuart
Chair



Beverly Douglas
Clerk/Analyst

The Senate of West Virginia



Testimony taken this 3rd day of March, 2025, in
the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

"I swear to tell the truth, nothing but the truth, under penalty of
false swearing in a legislative proceeding, so help me God."

Keith Hoover

Print Witness Name

[Handwritten Signature]

Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Michael B. Stuart

Print Member Name

[Handwritten Signature]

Sign Member Name