



# West Virginia Senate

## Committee on Judiciary

Minutes for March 31, 2025, 3:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on Judiciary met on March 31, 2025, 3:00 PM in Room 208-W.

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

Members absent: None

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. 569 - Establishing certain rights for purchasers of residential improvements.**

Carl Fletcher, Counsel, explained the bill, and responded to questions.

On motion of Senator Martin, the committee amended the bill on page 1, line 2 of section 1, by striking out "single-family residential improvements", and revising all other areas throughout pages 1, 2, and 3.

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

Chairman Stuart moved **ORG #2** next on the agenda.

**ORG #2 – Declaring apiaries to be an agricultural operation.**

Joni Nichols, Counsel, explained the originating bill and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Lora Walker, General Counsel, West Virginia Department of Agriculture, was administered the oath prescribed by Senate Rule 28a by Chairman Stuart, addressed the committee, and responded to questions. (See attached oath.)

On motion of Senator Willis, the committee amended the bill on page 3, section (e), by striking in its entirety.

On motion of Senator Willis, the committee agreed to the originating bill.

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

Chairman Stuart moved **ORG #1** next on the agenda.

**ORG #1 – Prohibiting sales of unauthorized vape products.**

Chris Etheredge, Counsel, explained the originating bill and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Tony Abboud, Executive Director, Vapor Technology Association, was administered the oath prescribed by Senate Rule 28a by Chairman Stuart, addressed the committee, and responded to questions. (See attached oath.)

With leave of the committee, Dr. Stephen Loyd, Director, Office of Drug Control Policy, West Virginia Department of Human Services, was administered the oath prescribed by Senate Rule 28a by Chairman Stuart, addressed the committee, and responded to questions. (See attached oath.)

Chairman Stuart moved **ORG #1** to a study resolution.

Chairman Stuart removed **S. B. 58** and **ORG #3** from the agenda.

Chairman Stuart moved **ORG #4** next on the agenda.

**ORG #4 – Creation of the West Virginia Child First Advisory Committee.**

J. A. Curia, Counsel, explained the originating bill and responded to questions.

On motion of Senator Willis, the committee agreed to the originating bill.

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

On Motion of Senator Willis the committee adjourned.



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Michael B. Stuart

Chair



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Beverly Douglas

Clerk/Analyst

The Senate of West Virginia



Testimony taken this 31<sup>st</sup> 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."

Lora Walker

Print Witness Name

[Signature]

Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Michael B. Stuart

Print Member Name

Michael B. Stuart

Sign Member Name



The Senate of West Virginia

Remote/Virtual Testimony

Testimony taken this 31<sup>st</sup> 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.”

Tony Abboud

Print Witness Name

Beverly Douglas

Testimony Attested to

By Committee Clerk

Oath was administered by:

Michael B. Stuart

Print Member Name

Michael B. Stuart

Sign Member Name



The Senate of West Virginia

Remote/Virtual Testimony

Testimony taken this 31<sup>st</sup> 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.”

Dr. Stephen Loyd

Print Witness Name

Beverly Douglas

Testimony Attested to

By Committee Clerk

Oath was administered by:

Michael B. Stuart

Print Member Name

Michael B. Stuart

Sign Member Name