



West Virginia House of Delegates

Standing Committee on Education

Minutes for January 15, 2026, 2:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on Education met on January 15, 2026, 2:00 PM, in the House Education Committee Room 432-M.

Members present: Delegates Ellington, Statler, Hamilton, Garcia, Bell, Campbell, Chiarelli, Coop-Gonzalez, Crouse, Dittman, Hornby, Jennings, Kimble, Mallow, Miller, Pritt, Pushkin, Shamblin, Stephens, Toney, Ward, B., White, Willis.

Members absent: Delegates Barnhart, Vance.

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

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

Chairman Ellington then introduced to the committee the 2026 Education Committee per diem staff and welcomed Delegate Bell to the committee.

The Chair moved to Committee Hearings and called Delegate Willis to the podium to explain **H. B. 4081**, To create the Higher Education Health and Aid Grant. Following his explanation the floor was open for questions of Delegate Willis. Following questions, the Chairman asked if there were any agencies, organizations or members of the public wishing to address the bill with none being heard the bill was moved to the markup and discussion stage.

Next, the Chair moved to Committee Hearings and called Delegate Hornby to the podium to explain **H. B. 4087**, To create a West Virginia-Ireland Education Alliance. Following his presentation the floor was opened for questions of Delegate Hornby. Following questions the Chairman asked if there were any agencies, organizations or members of the public wishing to address the bill. Mr. Jamie Field, Professor, WVU's John Chambers College of Business and Economics gave testimony in support of the proposed legislation. The bill was then moved to the markup and discussion stage.

With no other business to come before the committee, on motion of Delegate Statler the committee adjourned.

Joe Ellington

Committee Chair

Melinda Ryan Swagger

Committee Clerk