



West Virginia House of Delegates

Standing Committee on Government Organization

Minutes for January 19, 2026, 1:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on Government Organization met on January 19, 2026, 1:00 PM, in the Government Organization Committee Room 215 - E.

Members present: Delegates Phillips, Young, Lewis, Adkins, Brooks, Browning, Burkhammer, Clark, Clay, Dean, Ferrell, Foggin, Hott, Howell, Kyle, Leavitt, Lucas, McCormick, Pinson, Sheedy, Sr., Street.

Members absent: Delegates Smith, Cannon, Smith.

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

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

Chairman Phillips announced the first item on the agenda was consideration of HB 4005. Delegate Dean moved the bill. Chairman Phillips recognized Max Wilkinson, Committee Counsel, to explain the bill. Delegate Dean moved the Committee Substitute. Chairman Phillips recognized Max Wilkinson, Counsel, to explain the committee substitute for HB 4005. Questions and answers of counsel followed. Delegate Dean moved to adopt the language of the Committee Substitute. That motion was adopted. Delegate Dean moved to report the committee substitute for HB 4005 to the floor with a recommendation that it do pass. The motion was adopted.

Chairman Phillips recognized Sean Whelan, General Counsel, Governor's Office and Chelsea Ruby, Secretary, Department of Tourism, to explain HB 4015. Questions and answers of Mr. Whelan and Secretary Ruby followed. Chairman Phillips announced HB 4015 would be moved to the markup/passage stage.

Chairman Phillips recognized Sean Whelan, General Counsel, Governor's Office, Jim Seward, Adjutant General, Patrick Chard, Brigadier General, Matthew Blackeood, Acting Director, Emergency Management Division, and Bob Martin, State Resiliency Officer, to explain HB 4018. Questions and answers of the presenters followed. Chairman Phillips announced HB 4018 would be moved to the markup/passage stage.

Chairman Phillips announced HB 4025 would be held to a later meeting.

On Motion of Delegate Dean the committee adjourned.

Chris Phillips

Committee Chair

Jared A. Page

Analyst