



West Virginia House of Delegates

Standing Committee on Government Organization

Minutes for February 16, 2026, 1:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on Government Organization met on February 16, 2026, 1:00 PM, in the House East Wing Committee Room 215-E.

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

Members absent: Delegates Cannon, Smith.

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

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

Chairman Phillips announced the first item on the agenda was consideration of the Committee Substitute for SB 309. Delegate Smith moved the Committee Substitute. Chairman Phillips recognized Josh Wiseman, Counsel, to explain the committee substitute for SB 309. Questions and answers of counsel followed. Delegate Smith moved to report the committee substitute for SB 309 to the floor with a recommendation that it do pass. The motion was adopted.

Chairman Phillips announced the next item on the agenda was consideration of SB 403. Delegate Smith moved the Committee Substitute. Chairman Phillips recognized Max Wilkinson, Counsel, to SB 403. Questions and answers of counsel followed. Delegate Smith moved to report SB 403 to the floor with a recommendation that it do pass. The motion was adopted.

Chairman Phillips announced the next item on the agenda was consideration of HB 4355. Delegate Smith moved the bill. Chairman Phillips recognized Max Wilkinson, Counsel, to explain HB 4355. Delegate Smith moved the committee substitute. Chairman Phillips recognized Max Wilkinson, Counsel, to explain the committee substitute. Questions and answers of counsel followed. Delegate Smith moved to adopt the language of the committee substitute. That motion was adopted. Delegate Smith moved to report the committee substitute for HB 4355 to the floor with a recommendation that it do pass. The motion was adopted.

Chairman Phillips announced the next item on the agenda was consideration of HB 4577. Delegate Smith moved the bill. Chairman Phillips recognized Max Wilkinson, Counsel, to explain

HB 4577. Delegate Smith moved the committee substitute. Chairman Phillips recognized Max Wilkinson, Counsel, to explain the committee substitute. Questions and answers of counsel followed. Delegate Smith moved to adopt the language of the committee substitute. That motion was adopted. Delegate Smith moved to report the committee substitute for HB 4577 to the floor with a recommendation that it do pass. The motion was adopted.

Chairman Phillips announced the next item on the agenda was consideration of HB 4819. Delegate Smith moved the bill. Chairman Phillips recognized Max Wilkinson, Counsel, to explain HB 4819. Delegate Lewis moved amend the bill. That motion was adopted. Delegate Smith moved to report HB 4819, as amended, to the floor with a recommendation that it do pass. The motion was adopted.

Chairman Phillips announced the next item on the agenda was consideration of the Committee Substitute for HB 4958. Delegate Smith moved the bill. Chairman Phillips recognized Josh Wiseman, Counsel, to explain HB 4958. Questions and answers of counsel followed. Delegate Smith moved to report HB 4958 to the floor with a recommendation that it do pass. The motion was adopted.

Chairman Phillips announced the next item on the agenda was the hearing stage for HB 4148. Chairman Phillips recognized Delegate Patrick Lucas to explain HB 4148. Chairman Phillips announced HB 4148 would be moved to the markup/passage stage.

Chairman Phillips announced the next item on the agenda was the hearing stage for HB 4663. Chairman Phillips recognized Delegate Wayne Clark to explain HB 4663. Chairman Phillips announced HB 4663 would be moved to the markup/passage stage.

Chairman Phillips announced the next item on the agenda was the hearing stage for HB 4978. Chairman Phillips recognized Delegate Tristian Leavitt to explain HB 4978. Chairman Phillips announced HB 4978 would be moved to the markup/passage stage.

Chairman Phillips announced the next item on the agenda was the hearing stage for HB 5015. Chairman Phillips recognized Delegate Dean Jeffries to explain HB 5015. Chairman Phillips announced HB 5015 would be moved to the markup/passage stage.

On Motion of Delegate Smith the committee adjourned.

Chris Phillips

Committee Chair

Jared A. Page

Analyst