



# West Virginia House of Delegates

## Standing Committee on the Judiciary

Minutes for February 02, 2026, 9:00 AM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on the Judiciary met on February 02, 2026, at 9:00 AM, in the House Judiciary Committee Room 410-M with Delegate Akers in the Chair.

Members present: Delegates Fluharty, Butler, Ferrell, Flanigan, Funkhouser, Heckert, Hillenbrand, Holstein, Hornby, Jennings, Kimble, Kump, Mallow, Marple, Martin, Masters, Maynor, Phillips, Ridenour, Roop, Shamblin, Ward, B., Zatezalo and Chairman Akers.

Members absent: Delegates Hansen.

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

On motion of Vice-Chairman Maynor, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Chairman Akers recognized the clerk for purposes of receiving subcommittee reports:

The House Subcommittee on Legal Services has had under consideration House Bill 4601 and reports the same back to the Standing Committee on the Judiciary.

The House Subcommittee on Courts has had under consideration House Bills 4603 and 4755 and reports the same back, with amendment, to the Standing Committee on the Judiciary.

The House Subcommittee on Homeland Security has had under consideration House Bill 4522 and reports the same back, with amendment, to the Standing Committee on the Judiciary.

**House Bill 4382**, Require collection agencies to provide 30 days notice prior to wage garnishments

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the bill. On motion of Vice-Chairman Maynor, a committee substitute for the bill was offered.

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the proposed committee substitute. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the proposed committee substitute.

On motion of Delegate Flanigan, an amendment was offered to the committee substitute. Chairman Akers recognized Delegate Flanigan. Delegate Flanigan asked for unanimous consent to explain the amendment in lieu of having it read. Without objection, Delegate Flanigan explained the amendment. Chairman Akers called for questions regarding the amendment. Questions from the committee members followed.

Chairman Akers recognized Delegate Flanigan. Delegate Flanigan asked for unanimous consent to reform the amendment. Without objection, the amendment was reformed. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the amendment. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion to amend the committee substitute. The motion was adopted and the amendment to the committee substitute was approved. Chairman Akers called for additional amendments.

Hearing none, Chairman Akers called for discussion on the proposed committee substitute. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers declared the committee substitute was approved. Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Committee Substitute for House Bill 4382 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers ordered the bill to be reported as moved.

**House Bill 4552**, Relating to the law-enforcement powers of correctional officers

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the bill. On motion of Vice-Chairman Maynor, a committee substitute for the bill was offered.

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the proposed committee substitute. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Questions from the committee members followed. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the proposed committee substitute.

Hearing none, Chairman Akers called for discussion on the proposed committee substitute. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers declared the committee substitute was approved. Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Committee Substitute for House Bill 4552 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers ordered the bill to be reported as moved.

**House Bill 4570**, To make the posting of a summons in a conspicuous place on rental property acceptable service when a tenant is unavailable for personal service

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the bill. On motion of Vice-Chairman Maynor, a committee substitute for the bill was offered.

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the proposed committee substitute. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Questions from the committee members followed. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the proposed committee substitute.

Hearing none, Chairman Akers called for discussion on the proposed committee substitute. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers declared the committee substitute was approved. Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Committee Substitute for House Bill 4570 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers ordered the bill to be reported as moved.

**House Bill 4625**, Relating to exemptions from excise taxes

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the bill. On motion of Vice-Chairman Maynor, a committee substitute for the bill was offered.

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the proposed committee substitute. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Questions from the committee members followed. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the proposed committee substitute.

Hearing none, Chairman Akers called for discussion on the proposed committee substitute. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers declared the committee substitute was approved. Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Committee Substitute for House Bill 4625 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Chairman Akers put the question before the committee on adoption of the motion. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers ordered the bill to be reported as moved.

**House Bill 4522**, Banning Foreign backed spending on State Ballot Issues

Chairman Akers recognized Delegate Ridenour as the lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for questions for Delegate Ridenour regarding the bill. Questions from the committee members followed. With leave of the committee and remaining under oath, Mr. David Cook, General Counsel, West Virginia Secretary of State's Office, answered questions from the committee members. Chairman Akers advanced the bill to markup and discussion.

**House Bill 4601**, Relating to the Child Abuse and Neglect Investigations Unit

Chairman Akers recognized Delegate Burkhammer as the lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for questions for Delegate Burkhammer regarding the bill. Questions from the committee members followed. Chairman Akers advanced the bill to markup and discussion.

**House Bill 4603**, Relating to the creation of the process of obtaining and adjudicating a pre-adjudicatory alternative disposition

Chairman Akers recognized Delegate Burkhammer as the lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for questions for Delegate Burkhammer regarding the bill. Questions from the committee members followed. Chairman Akers advanced the bill to markup and discussion.

**House Bill 4755**, Adding Aggravated Vehicular Homicide to the list of qualifying offenses

Chairman Akers recognized Delegate Ridenour as the lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for questions for Delegate Ridenour regarding the bill. Chairman Akers advanced the bill to markup and discussion.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Maynor, the committee adjourned.

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Delegate JB Akers  
Committee Chair

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Mr. Daniel Osborne  
Senior Clerk