



West Virginia House of Delegates

Standing Committee on the Judiciary

Minutes for February 06, 2026, 9:00 AM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on the Judiciary met on February 06, 2026, at 9:00 AM, in the House Judiciary Committee Room 410-M with Delegate Maynor in the Chair.

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

Members absent: Delegates Fluharty, Kump.

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 Courts has had under consideration House Bill 4098 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 5101 and reports the same back to the Standing Committee on the Judiciary.

House Bill 4725, Clarifying the disposition of animal subject to animal cruelty treatment

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the bill. There being no amendments offered, Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion.

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report House Bill 4725 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 to report the bill. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers ordered the bill to be reported as moved.

House Bill 4801, Defining Permissible expenditures for municipalities and counties

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the bill. There being no amendments offered, Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report House Bill 4725 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 to report the bill. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers ordered the bill to be reported as moved.

House Bill 4412, Require pornography websites to utilize age verification methods to prevent minors from accessing content

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.

There being no amendments offered, 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 4412 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.

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 207, Clarifying sheriff's compensation for collection of taxes

Chairman Akers recognized counsel for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for questions of counsel. Chairman Akers called for amendments to the bill. There being no amendments offered, Chairman Akers recognized Vice-Chairman Maynor for purposes of making a motion

Vice-Chairman Maynor moved to report Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 207 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 to report the bill. The motion was adopted and Chairman Akers ordered the bill to be reported as moved.

House Bill 4098, To restore the right of a person to sit on a jury has been restored upon expungement of one's record

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

House Bill 5101, The Joanna Phillips Domestic Violence Prevention Act

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

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

Delegate JB Akers
Committee Chair

Mr. Daniel Osborne
Senior Clerk