



# West Virginia House of Delegates

## Standing Committee on the Judiciary

Minutes for February 26, 2026, 9:00 AM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on the Judiciary met on February 26, 2026, at 9:00 AM, in the House Judiciary Committee Room 410-M with Delegate Akers.

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

Members absent: Delegates Fluharty, Kump, and Roop.

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.

**House Bill 4538**, Regarding limited use of equipment to enforce speed limits in Division of Highways work zones

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. Without objection and having been placed under oath by Chairman Akers, Mr. Jason Pizatella, West Virginia Contractor's Association, answered questions from the committee members. 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 4538 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 4986**, Relating to child welfare

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 4986 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 5060, Relating to Decentralized Unincorporated Nonprofit Associations**

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.

There being no amendments offered, Chairman Akers called for discussion on the proposed committee substitute. Discussion from the committee members followed. 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 5060 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 5484, Creating the crime of conspiracy to deny medical treatment to victim of sexual offense**

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 5484 to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. Chairman Akers called for discussion on the motion. Discussion from the committee members followed. 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 5528**, Relating to protection of personal residential information of certain public officials

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 5528 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 5649**, Relating to confidentiality of certain records pertaining to adults and facility residents

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 5649 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.

At this moment, Chairman Akers ceded the Chair to Vice-Chairman Maynor.

**Originating Bill**, Creating Child Protection Commissioners

Chairman Maynor recognized Delegate Akers as the lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Maynor called for questions for Delegate Akers regarding the bill. Questions from the committee members followed.

At this moment, Chairman Maynor ceded the Chair to Delegate Akers.

Without objection and having been placed under oath by Chairman Akers, Mr. Keith Hoover, Administrative Director, West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, answered questions from the committee members. Chairman Akers advanced the bill to markup and discussion.

At this moment, Chairman Akers ceded the Chair to Vice-Chairman Maynor.

**Committee Substitute for House Bill 4995, Require the use of video cameras in certain special education classrooms**

Chairman Maynor recognized Delegate Martin as the lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Maynor called for questions for Delegate Martin regarding the bill. Questions from the committee members followed. Without objection and having been placed under oath by Chairman Maynor, Ms. Samantha Ribeiro Matos, answered questions from the committee members.

At this moment, Chairman Maynor ceded the Chair to Delegate Akers.

Without objection and having been placed under oath by Chairman Akers, Mr. Drew McClanahan, West Virginia Department of Education, answered questions from the committee members. Chairman Akers advanced the bill to markup and discussion.

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

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Upon reconvening, Chairman Akers ceded the Chair to Vice-Chairman Maynor.

**House Bill 5059, Relating to authorizing cultural heritage institutions to claim title to certain property in possession of the cultural heritage institution after providing certain notices**

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

At this moment, Chairman Maynor ceded the Chair to Delegate Akers.

**House Bill 5366, Relating to rules governing the practice of law**

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

**House Bill 5587, To authorize cameras in school buses to send red light violators footage directly to the applicable law enforcement agency for ticketing and enforcement**

Chairman Akers recognized Delegate Funkhouser as the lead sponsor for purposes of explaining the bill. Chairman Akers called for questions for Delegate Funkhouser 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