



West Virginia Senate

Committee on Finance

Minutes for February 03, 2026, 3:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on Finance met on February 03, 2026, 3:00 PM in Room 451-M.

Members present: Senators Barrett, Roberts, Barnhart, Clements, Grady, Hamilton, Maynard, Morris, Oliverio, Phillips, Queen, Takubo, Thorne, Woodrum, Woelfel

Members absent: Senators Jeffries, Martin

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

On motion of Senator Queen, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Senate Bill 592 – WV Short Line Railroad Modernization Act

Jeff Johnson, Counsel, Senate Finance Committee, was recognized to present the bill, the proposed committee substitute, and answer questions from the committee. The Chairman moved the adoption of the committee substitute. The motion carried. The Vice-Chairman was recognized to move adoption of Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 592 with the recommendation that it do pass. The Chairman put the question on the motion and declared the motion adopted.

Budget Presentation: West Virginia Department of Homeland Security

Douglas Buffington, Acting Cabinet Secretary, was recognized to present the department's budget and answer questions from the committee. Bryan Arthur, Chief Financial Officer, was recognized for additional questions.

Budget Presentation: West Virginia State Police

Colonel J.L. Mitchell, Superintendent, was recognized to present the agency's budget and answer questions from the committee.

Budget Presentation: West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance

Ryan Kennedy, Cabinet Secretary, was recognized to present the department's budget and to answer questions from the committee. Heather Brunton, Chief Financial Officer, was recognized to answer additional questions.

On Motion of Senator Barnhart the committee adjourned.



Jason Barrett
Chairman



Tammy Shamblin
Committee Clerk