



West Virginia Senate

Committee on Judiciary

Minutes for January 29, 2026, 3:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on Judiciary met on January 29, 2026, 3:00 PM in Room 208-W.

Members present: Senators Willis, Bartlett, Azinger, Chapman, Charnock, Deeds, Fuller, Hart, Helton, Maynard, Rose, Rucker, Tarr, Taylor, Weld, Garcia

Members absent: Senators Martin

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

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

S. B. 210 - Requiring departments to prepare performance plans and performance reports for Legislative Oversight Commission on Health and Human Resources Accountability.

Candace Kraus, Counsel, explained the bill, the purpose of the proposed committee substitute, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Alex Mayer, Secretary, Department of Human Services, was administered the oath prescribed by Senate Rule 28a by Chairman Willis, addressed the committee, and responded to questions. (See attached oath.)

The question being on agreeing to the committee substitute, the same was put, and the committee substitute was agreed to.

On motion of Senator Bartlett, the committee reported the committee substitute to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass.

S. B. 543 - Requiring Bureau for Social Services to file legislative rule.

J. A. Curia, Counsel, explained the bill, and responded to questions.

Cindy Dellinger, Counsel for Health and Human Resources, responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Alex Mayer, Secretary, Department of Human Services, addressed the committee, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Chanin Krivonyak, Deputy Secretary and General Counsel, Department of Human Services, was administered the oath prescribed by Senate Rule 28a by Chairman Willis, addressed the committee, and responded to questions. (See attached oath.)

Senator Willis laid over **S. B. 543**.

S. B. 617 - Banking and Financial Services Provider Protections for Eligible Adults from Financial Exploitation.

J. A. Curia, Counsel, explained the bill, the purpose of the proposed committee substitute, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Angela Vance, Associate State Director for Advocacy, AARP West Virginia, was administered the oath prescribed by Senate Rule 28a by Chairman Willis, addressed the committee, and responded to questions. (See attached oath.)

With leave of the committee, J. Mark Adkins, Community Bankers of West Virginia, was administered the oath prescribed by Senate Rule 28a by Chairman Willis, addressed the committee, and responded to questions. (See attached oath.)

With leave of the committee, Steve Broadwater, West Virginia Association of Justice, was administered the oath prescribed by Senate Rule 28a by Chairman Willis, addressed the committee, and responded to questions. (See attached oath.)

Senator Tarr moved to amend the committee substitute to insert the protections and immunities that were included in the original bill.

The question being on the adoption of the amendment. The Chair being in doubt, a division of the body was demanded by Chairman Willis.

The vote being 4 in favor and 11 opposed, the amendment was rejected.

The question being on agreeing to the committee substitute, the same was put, and the committee substitute was agreed to.

On motion of Senator Bartlett, the committee reported the committee substitute to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass, but first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

On Motion of Senator Bartlett the committee adjourned.



Thomas E. Willis II
Chair



Beverly Douglas
Clerk/Analyst

The Senate of West Virginia



Testimony taken this 29th day of January, 20 26, in
the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

"I swear to tell the truth, nothing but the truth, under penalty of
false swearing, so help me God."

Alex Mayer

Print Witness Name

Alex J. M.

Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Thomas E. Willis II

Print Member Name

[Signature]

Sign Member Name

The Senate of West Virginia



Testimony taken this 29th day of January, 20 26, in
the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

“I swear to tell the truth, nothing but the truth, under penalty of
false swearing, so help me God.”

Chanin Krivonyak

Print Witness Name

Chanin Krivonyak

Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Thomas E. Willis II

Print Member Name

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'T. Willis II', written over a horizontal line.

Sign Member Name

The Senate of West Virginia



Testimony taken this 29th day of January, 2026, in
the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

“I swear to tell the truth, nothing but the truth, under penalty of
false swearing, so help me God.”

Angela Vance

Print Witness Name

Angela Vance

Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Thomas E. Willis II

Print Member Name

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'T. Willis II', written over a horizontal line.

Sign Member Name

The Senate of West Virginia



Testimony taken this 29th day of January, 20 26, in
the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

“I swear to tell the truth, nothing but the truth, under penalty of
false swearing, so help me God.”

J. Mark Adkins

Print Witness Name

J. Mark Adkins

Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Thomas E. Willis II

Print Member Name

[Signature]

Sign Member Name

The Senate of West Virginia



Testimony taken this 29th day of January, 20 , in
the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

“I swear to tell the truth, nothing but the truth, under penalty of
false swearing, so help me God.”

Steve Broadwater

Print Witness Name



Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Thomas E. Willis II

Print Member Name



Sign Member Name
