



West Virginia Senate

Committee on Judiciary

Minutes for February 05, 2026, 3:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on Judiciary met on February 05, 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: Senator 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. 173 - Prohibiting abortifacients.

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

With leave of the committee, Thomas Dinkel, Students for Life, 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, Kristan Hawkins, President of Students for Life Action & Students for Life of America, was administered the oath prescribed by Senate Rule 28a by Chairman Willis, addressed the committee, and responded to questions. (See attached oath.)

On motion of Senator Fuller, the committee amended the committee substitute on page 5, section 10, subsection (d), by inserting subdivisions "(3) A motor carrier or freight forwarder as defined in 49 U.S.C. § 13102; (4) An air carrier as defined in 49 U.S.C. § 40102; or (5) a third-party logistics provider as defined in 21 U.S.C. § 360eee".

Senator Tarr moved to amend the committee substitute on page 4, after line 28, section 10, by renaming subsection (d) and inserting a new subsection (e) that states the following:

"(d) Any individual bringing a civil action pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall

serve a copy of the complaint filed in the civil action on the Attorney General of West Virginia no later than 30 days after the institution of the action.

(e) The Attorney General of West Virginia may pursue a civil claim against a person or entity that knowingly and willfully violates subsection (a) of this section in the circuit court where the abortion or attempted abortion occurred. In addition to injunctive relief, the Attorney General may recover against the person or entity a sum to the maximum amount possible under law and recover all expenses associated with the claim. Provided, That neither an indictment nor a conviction is required for establishing liability against a person or entity in a civil action alleging a violation of subsection (a) of this section.”

Chairman Willis removed **S. B. 575** from the agenda.

The question being the adoption of the amendment offered by Senator Tarr, the same was put and adopted.

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

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 5th day of February, 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."

Thomas Dinkle

Print Witness Name

[Handwritten Signature]

Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Thomas E. Willis II

Print Member Name

[Handwritten Signature]

Sign Member Name

The Senate of West Virginia



Remote/Virtual Testimony

Testimony taken this 5th day of February, 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.”

Kristan Hawkins

Print Witness Name

Bruce Douglas

Testimony Attested to

By Committee Clerk

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