



West Virginia Senate

Committee on Judiciary

Minutes for February 10, 2026, 3:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on Judiciary met on February 10, 2026, 3:00 PM in Room 2-8-W.

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

Members absent: Senators Hart, Helton, Martin, Rose

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. 251 - Department of Administration rule relating to One-Stop Shop Permitting Program.

Debra Graham, Counsel, explained the bill, the purpose of the proposed committee substitute, and responded to questions.

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. 640 - Prohibiting release of certain personal information of contributors to political elections.

On motion of Senator Bartlett, the committee received the sub-committee report.

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

On motion of Senator Weld, the committee amended the committee substitute on page 16, line 24, subsection (e) and, on page 17, line 33, subsection (f), by striking the word “address” and inserting in lieu thereof the words “street number and street name”.

With leave of the committee, David P. Cook, General Counsel, West Virginia Secretary of State, 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, as amended.

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

H. B. 4433 - Prohibiting Human Smuggling and Trafficking.

J. A. Curia, Counsel, explained the bill, the proposed strike and insert and title amendment, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Bill Ridenour, Delegate, District 100, addressed the committee, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Reverend Cindy Briggs-Biondi, Pastor, St. Paul United Methodist Church, was administered the oath prescribed by Senate Rule 28a by Chairman Willis, addressed the committee, and responded to questions. (See attached oath.)

.Senator Garcia moved to amend the strike and insert amendment on page 3, subdivision (6), paragraph (A), line 52, after the word “alien” by inserting the words “for financial or material benefit”.

Senator Garcia withdrew his amendment.

Senator Bartlett moved to adopt the strike and insert amendment.

Senator Garcia moved to amend the strike and insert amendment on page 3, subdivision (6), paragraph (A), line 52, after the word “alien” by inserting the words “for financial or material benefit”.

The same was put and the amendment was rejected.

The committee adopted the strike and insert amendment.

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 adopted the title amendment.

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 10th 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."

Daird P. Cook

Print Witness Name

[Signature]

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 10th 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."

Cindy Briggs-Biondi
Print Witness Name

[Signature]
Sign Witness Name

Oath was administered by:

Thomas E. Willis II
Print Member Name

[Signature]
Sign Member Name