

1 **H. B. 2078**

2  
3 (By Delegate Hall)

4 [Introduced January 12, 2011; referred to the  
5 Committee on Education then Finance.]

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10 A BILL to amend and reenact §18-5-4 of the Code of West Virginia,  
11 1931, as amended, relating to increasing the compensation of  
12 members of county boards of education.

13 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

14 That §18-5-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,  
15 be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

16 **ARTICLE 5. COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.**

17 **§18-5-4. Meetings; employment and assignment of teachers; budget**  
18 **hearing; compensation of members; affiliation with**  
19 **state and national associations.**

20 (a) The county board shall meet on the first Monday in July,  
21 and upon the dates provided by law for the laying of levies, and at  
22 any other times the county board fixes upon its records. Subject  
23 to adequate public notice, nothing in this section prohibits the

1 county board from conducting regular meetings in facilities within  
2 the county other than the county board office. At any meeting as  
3 authorized in this section and in compliance with the provisions of  
4 chapter eighteen-a of this code, the county board may employ  
5 qualified teachers, or those who will qualify by the time they  
6 enter upon their duties, necessary to fill existing or anticipated  
7 vacancies for the current or next ensuing school year. Meetings of  
8 the county board shall be held in compliance with the provisions of  
9 chapter eighteen-a of this code for purposes relating to the  
10 assignment, transfer, termination and dismissal of teachers and  
11 other school employees.

12 (b) Special meetings may be called by the president or any  
13 three members, but no business may be transacted other than that  
14 designated in the call.

15 (c) In addition, a public hearing shall be held concerning the  
16 preliminary operating budget for the next fiscal year not fewer  
17 than ten days after the budget has been made available to the  
18 public for inspection and within a reasonable time prior to the  
19 submission of the budget to the state board for approval.  
20 Reasonable time shall be granted at the hearing to any person who  
21 wishes to speak regarding any part of the budget. Notice of the  
22 hearing shall be published as a Class I legal advertisement in  
23 compliance with the provisions of article three, chapter fifty-nine  
24 of this code.

1 (d) A majority of the members of the county board constitutes  
2 the quorum necessary for the transaction of official business.

3 (e) Board members may receive compensation at a rate not to  
4 exceed ~~\$160~~ \$396 per meeting attended, but they may not receive pay  
5 for more than fifty meetings in any one fiscal year. Board members  
6 who serve on an administrative council of a multicounty vocational  
7 center also may receive compensation for attending up to twelve  
8 meetings of the council at the same rate as for meetings of the  
9 county board. Meetings of the council are not counted as board  
10 meetings for purposes of determining the limit on compensable board  
11 meetings.

12 (f) Members also shall be paid, upon the presentation of an  
13 itemized sworn statement, for all necessary traveling expenses,  
14 including all authorized meetings, incurred on official business,  
15 at the order of the county board.

16 (g) When, by a majority vote of its members, a county board  
17 considers it a matter of public interest, the county board may join  
18 the West Virginia School Board Association and the National School  
19 Board Association and may pay the dues prescribed by the  
20 associations and approved by action of the respective county  
21 boards. Membership dues and actual traveling expenses incurred by  
22 board members for attending meetings of the West Virginia School  
23 Board Association may be paid by their respective county boards out  
24 of funds available to meet actual expenses of the members, but no

1 allowance may be made except upon sworn itemized statements.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to raise the county board of education pay to that of the county commissioners.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.