1 H. B. 2247 2 3 (By Delegates Overington and J. Miller) [Introduced January 12, 2011; referred to the 4 5 Committee on Political Subdivisions then the Judiciary.] 6 7 8 9 10 A BILL to amend and reenact chapter 83, Acts of the Legislature, 11 regular session, 1970, relating to changing the Martinsburg 12 public library to the Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public 13 Library; to create a library board with the power to operate 14 the said public library; and to provide a stable method of 15 financing the operation of the Martinsburg-Berkeley County 16 Public Library. 17 Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia: 18 §1. Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library Created. 19 The city of Martinsburg formed the Martinsburg Public Library, 20 which now provides library service to all of Berkeley County. The 21 public library is funded by Berkeley County, the Berkeley County 22 Board of Education and the city of Martinsburg. To recognize the 23 county wide service and shared funding of the public library the 24 corporation known as the Martinsburg Public Library shall become

- 1 the Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library.
- 2 §2. Board of Directors Appointment, powers and duties.
- 3 There shall be a board of five directors, who shall serve
- 4 without compensation. The directors currently serving will serve
- 5 until the end of their respective terms. Beginning June 30, 2011,
- 6 the Berkeley County Commission shall be responsible for two
- 7 appointments, the Berkeley County Board of Education shall be
- 8 responsible for two appointments and the city of Martinsburg shall
- 9 be responsible for one appointment. The term expiring June 30,
- 10 2011, shall be appointed by the Berkeley County Commission; the
- 11 term expiring June 30, 2012, shall be appointed by the Berkeley
- 12 County Board of Education; the term expiring June 30, 2013 , shall
- 13 be appointed by the city of Martinsburg; the term expiring June 30,
- 14 2014, shall be appointed by the Berkeley County Commission; and the
- 15 term expiring June 30, 2015, shall be appointed by the Berkeley
- 16 County Board of Education.
- 17 Successive appointments will be filled by the original
- 18 appointing authority. The powers and duties of the
- 19 Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library and the board of
- 20 directors shall be defined by the provisions of chapter ten of the
- 21 West Virginia Code.
- 22 §1 3. Levies by county court, county board of education and city of
- 23 Martinsburg to support Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public

## 1 Library.

2 In order to provide for the support, maintenance, 3 operation of the Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library, 4 Berkeley County, West Virginia, and any and all branches thereof, 5 the Berkeley County Board of Education, the Berkeley County court 6 and the city of Martinsburg, hereinafter described as the 7 supporting agencies, shall, upon written request by the board of 8 directors of the Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library, levy 9 annually on each \$100 of assessed valuation of the property taxable 10 according to the last assessment for state and county purposes, 11 amounts as follows: By the board of education of the county of 12 Berkeley, Class I, one-half cent; Class II, one cent; Class III, 13 two cents; Class IV, two cents; by the county court of Berkeley 14 County, Class I, one-half cent; Class II, one cent; Class III, two 15 cents; Class IV, two cents; and by the city of Martinsburg, Class 16 I, one-half cent; Class II, one cent; Class IV, two cents.

Each year the board of directors shall request each of the three supporting agencies to levy within the above rates on each \$100 of assessed valuation of property of the same class, and each of the three supporting agencies shall levy within the rates aforesaid. In addition, each supporting agency may contribute to the public library any other general or specific revenues or excess levies. All income realized by the operation of the public library from any sources other than the above levies shall be used by the

1 board of directors for the support and maintenance of the public
2 library.

## 3 §<del>2</del> 4. Disbursements.

All money collected or appropriated by the three supporting 5 agencies for library purposes shall be deposited in a bank account 6 as directed by the library board of directors and disbursed by if 7 for salaries, wages, books, other library materials such as 8 magazines, pamphlets, papers, works of art, records also machinery, 9 equipment, supply services and other cost and expenses of operation 10 a public library and maintaining, repairing, improving and 11 replacing its property as well as acquiring additional property.

# 12 §3 5. Status of employees.

All employees of the Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public
Library shall be entitled to the benefits of the provisions of
chapter twenty-three and of articles seven and ten of chapter five
for the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended.

## 17 §4 6. Effect of future amendments of general law.

Amendments to article one, chapter ten of the Code of West 19 Virginia, 1931, as amended, and other general laws shall not 20 control this act except to the extent that they do not conflict 21 with the special features hereof, or unless the intent to amend 22 this act is clear, specific and unmistakable.

#### 23 §5 7. Severability.

- 1 If any provision hereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall
- 2 not affect other provisions hereof which can be given effect
- 3 without the invalid provision, and to this end the provisions of
- 4 this act are declared to be severable.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to change the Martinsburg Public Library to the Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library. Also, to create a library board with the power to operate the public library. Finally, to provide a stable method of financing the operation of the Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library.

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