1 H. B. 2673 2 3 (By Delegates J. Miller, Ireland, Canterbury and Walters) 4 5 [Introduced January 20, 2011; referred to the 6 7 Committee on Education then Finance. 1 8 9 10 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by 11 adding thereto a new section, designated §18-2-9a, relating to 12 preparing the youth of West Virginia to succeed in life by 13 providing them with an understanding of macroeconomics; and 14 directing the State Board of Education to develop a program of 15 instruction macroeconomics, emphasizing on basic 16 principles of capitalism. 17 Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia: 18 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended, 19 by adding thereto a new section, designated §18-2-9a, to read as 20 follows: 21 ARTICLE 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION. 22 \$18-2-9a. Required courses of instruction; violation and penalty. 23 (a) The Legislature finds and declares that West Virginia 24 students with an understanding of macroeconomics will be better 25 prepared to succeed in life. As citizens of the United States, our

- 1 West Virginia students will emerge from high school to enter the
- 2 great economic system known as capitalism. Given our students will
- 3 take part in capitalism for the rest of their lives, they must have
- 4 the proper understanding of how capitalism works. Further, the
- 5 United States of America was created as a capitalist nation, and
- 6 capitalism forms the bedrock of the United States Constitution and
- 7 of the United States' economy.
- 8 (b) Studying macroeconomics will provide the youth of West
- 9 Virginia with a basic understanding of capitalism. The principles
- 10 of free markets, free enterprise, competition and supply and demand
- 11 are central components of macroeconomics study. Learning these
- 12 basic principles of capitalism is essential because it will improve
- 13 our students' success within the system and make them better
- 14 citizens of not only their local community, state, and nation, but
- 15 of the world.
- 16 (c) To provide our students with this basic, yet essential
- 17 understanding of capitalism, the State Board of Education shall,
- 18 with the advice of the State Superintendent, develop a program of
- 19 instruction on macroeconomics. The curriculum should focus on the
- 20 basic principles of capitalism, the role capitalism played in the
- 21 founding of our country and the writing of the United States
- 22 Constitution, and the positive results capitalism has produced in
- 23 the United States by improving our citizens' quality of life. This
- 24 course shall be taught in all public high schools in either grades

## 1 eleven or twelve.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to help better prepare the youth of West Virginia to succeed in life by providing them with an understanding of the great economic system known as capitalism. This bill would direct the State Board of Education to develop a program of instruction on macroeconomics, the curriculum to include the basic principles of capitalism, the role capitalism played in the founding of our country and the writing of the United States Constitution, and the positive results capitalism has produced in the United States by improving our citizens' quality of life.

This section is new; therefore, it has been completely underscored.