

1 **H. B. 2889**

2
3 (By Delegates Marshall, Caputo, Fleischauer,
4 Barill and Lawrence)

5 [Introduced January 27, 2011; referred to the
6 Committee on Education then Finance.]

7 **FISCAL**
8 **NOTE**

9
10 A BILL to amend and reenact §18A-3A-2 of the Code of West Virginia,
11 1931, as amended, relating to creating the "Jason Flatt Act of
12 2011"; providing routine education of all professional
13 educators and those school service personnel having direct
14 contact with students on suicide prevention by center for
15 professional development; providing for state board
16 guidelines; and providing for delivery options.

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

18 That §18A-3A-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,
19 be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

20 **ARTICLE 3A. CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.**

21 **§18A-3A-2. Professional development project.**

22 Subject to the provisions of section twenty-three-a, article
23 two, chapter eighteen of this code, through this project the center
24 shall:

1 (1) Identify, coordinate, arrange and otherwise assist in the
2 delivery of professional development programs and activities that
3 help professional educators acquire the knowledge, skills,
4 attitudes, practices and other such pertinent complements deemed
5 essential for an individual to demonstrate appropriate performance
6 as a professional personnel in the public schools of West Virginia.
7 The basis for such performance shall be the laws, policies and
8 regulations adopted for the public schools of West Virginia, and
9 amendments thereto. The center also may permit and encourage
10 school personnel such as classroom aides, higher education teacher
11 education faculty and higher education faculty in programs such as
12 articulated tech prep associate degree and other programs to
13 participate in appropriate professional development programs and
14 activities with public school professional educators;

15 (2) Identify, coordinate, arrange and otherwise assist in the
16 delivery of professional development programs and activities that
17 help principals and administrators acquire knowledge, skills,
18 attitudes and practices in academic leadership and management
19 principles for principals and administrators and such other
20 pertinent complements deemed essential for principals and
21 administrators to demonstrate appropriate performance in the public
22 schools of West Virginia. The basis for such performance shall be
23 the laws, policies and regulations adopted for the public schools
24 of West Virginia, and amendments thereto;

1 (3) Serve in a coordinating capacity to assure that the
2 knowledge, skills, attitude and other pertinent complements of
3 appropriate professional performance which evolve over time in the
4 public school environment are appropriately reflected in the
5 programs approved for the education of professional personnel,
6 including, but not limited to, advising the teacher education
7 programs of major statutory and policy changes in the public
8 schools which affect the job performance requirements of
9 professional educators, including principals and administrators;

10 (4) Provide for the routine updating of professional skills of
11 professional educators, including principals and administrators,
12 through in-service and other programs. Such routine updating may
13 be provided by the center through statewide or regional institutes
14 which may require a registration fee;

15 (5) Provide for the routine education of all professional
16 educators, including principals and administrators, and those
17 school service personnel having direct contact with students on
18 suicide prevention under guidelines established by the state board.
19 The education may be provided by the center through in-service
20 professional development, or as a part of statewide or regional
21 institutes, or other programs and may be accomplished through self-
22 review of suicide prevention materials and resources approved by
23 the state board. The provisions of this paragraph may be known and
24 cited as the "Jason Flatt Act of 2011";

1 ~~(5)~~ (6) Provide consultation and assistance to county staff
2 development councils established under the provisions of section
3 eight, article three of this chapter in planning, designing,
4 coordinating, arranging for and delivering professional development
5 programs to meet the needs of the professional educators of their
6 district. From legislative appropriations to the center for
7 professional development, exclusive of such amounts required for
8 the expenses of the principals academy, the center shall, unless
9 otherwise directed by the Legislature, provide assistance in the
10 delivery of programs and activities to meet the expressed needs of
11 the school districts for professional development to help teachers,
12 principals and administrators demonstrate appropriate performance
13 based on the laws, policies and regulations adopted for the public
14 schools of West Virginia; and

15 ~~(6)~~ (7) Cooperate and coordinate with the institutions of
16 higher education to provide professional staff development programs
17 that satisfy some or all of the criteria necessary for currently
18 certified professional educators to meet the requirements for an
19 additional endorsement in an area of certification and for
20 certification to teach in the middle school grades.

21 If the center is not able to reach agreement with the
22 representatives of the institutions providing teacher education
23 programs on which courses will be approved for credit toward
24 additional endorsements, the state board may certify certain

1 professional staff development courses to meet criteria required by
2 the state board. This certification shall be done on a course by
3 course basis.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require annual suicide prevention training for all teachers and principals.

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