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ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

Senate Bill No. 185

(SENATORS LAIRD, NOHE AND FOSTER, *original sponsors*)

[Passed March 7, 2012; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact §5A-1A-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the Employee Suggestion Award Program; increasing the maximum cash award; requiring the board to report to the Legislature every five years; and allowing the Governor to make a secondary award.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §5A-1A-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 1A. EMPLOYEE SUGGESTION AWARD PROGRAM.

§5A-1A-4. Awards.

(a) The maximum cash award approved is limited to twenty percent of the first year's estimated savings, as established by the head of the affected spending unit, or \$16,000, whichever is less. A cash award approved by the board shall be charged by the

1 head of the affected spending unit against the appropriation item
2 or items to which the estimated savings apply.

3 (b) Commencing December 2015, and every five years thereafter,
4 the board shall submit a report to the Joint Committee on
5 Government and Finance, including:

6 (1) Recommendations for the maximum award amount adjusted for
7 inflation; and

8 (2) Any other information concerning the maximum award amount.

9 (c) After the board has made an award, the Governor may make
10 one secondary award of up to twenty percent of the additional
11 savings realized by implementing the suggestion in other state
12 agencies, not to exceed \$5,000. The Governor shall pay the
13 secondary awards from funds appropriated by the Legislature for
14 secondary awards.