

1 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

2 FOR

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR

5 **Senate Bill No. 418**

6 (By Senator Laird)

7 _____
8 [Originating in the Committee on the Judiciary;
9 reported February 8, 2012.]

10 _____
11
12 A BILL to amend and reenact §62-12-12 of the Code of West
13 Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to qualification of
14 members of the Parole Board.

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

16 That §62-12-12 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as
17 amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

18 **ARTICLE 12. PROBATION AND PAROLE.**

19 **§62-12-12. Parole board generally.**

20 ~~There shall be a state board of parole, known as (a)~~ The
21 West Virginia Parole Board is continued. The board shall consist
22 of nine members, each of whom shall have been a resident of this
23 state for at least five consecutive years prior to his or her

1 appointment. No more than five of the board members may at any
2 one time belong to the same political party. The board shall be
3 appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of
4 the Senate.

5 (b) Appointments ~~following the effective date of this~~
6 ~~section~~ shall be made in such a manner that each congressional
7 district is represented and so that no more than four and no less
8 than two members of the board reside in any one congressional
9 district. No more than two members of the board may reside in
10 any one county. ~~Each member of the board shall have a degree in~~
11 ~~criminal justice, or like experience and academic training~~

12 (c) Any person initially appointed to the board on or after
13 July 1, 2012, shall have at least a baccalaureate degree from an
14 accredited college or university and at least five years of
15 actual experience in the fields of penology, corrections, law
16 enforcement, sociology, law, education, psychology, social work,
17 medicine or a combination thereof and shall be otherwise
18 competent to perform the duties of his or her office. The
19 members shall be appointed for overlapping terms of six years.
20 ~~Any member qualified under this section is~~ Members are eligible
21 for reappointment. The members of the board shall devote their
22 full time and attention to their board duties. The Governor
23 shall appoint one of the nine appointed members to serve as
24 chairperson at the Governor's will and pleasure.