| 1           | н. в. 3087  |
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| 3<br>4<br>5 | (By Delegates Poore, Sobonya, Skinner, Morgan, Moye, D. Poling, Campbell, Hartman, Guthrie, Ellem and Miller) |
| 6           | [Introduced March 25, 2013; referred to the   |
| 7           | Committee on the Judiciary then Finance.]   |
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| 9           |   |
| 10          | A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by   |
| 11          | adding thereto a new article, designated, §25-8-1, relating to  |
| 12          | authorizing the Division of Corrections to implement a  |
| 13          | responsible parent program pilot project; setting forth   |
| 14          | requirements to participate in the program; setting forth   |
| 15          | program goals; and requiring a report.  |
| 16          | Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:  |
| 17          | That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended  |
| 18          | by adding thereto a new article, designated §25-8-1, to read as   |
| 19          | follows:  |
| 20          | ARTICLE 8. RESPONSIBLE PARENT PROGRAM PILOT-PROJECT.  |
| 21          | §25-8-1. Authorization; prerequisites; requirements; report.  |
| 22          | (a) In an effort to improve child and family well-being and to  |
| 23          | empower men and women with the skills and resources needed to   |
| 24          | succeed as parents and as family providers, the Division of   |

- 1 Corrections is authorized to implement a twenty-four-month pilot
- 2 project to establish a responsible parenting program that:
- 3 (1) Identifies for enrollment in the program persons who:
- 4 (A) Are parents of one or more children;
- 5 (B) Are present or former recipients of Temporary Aid to Needy
- 6 Families or have one or more children who are receiving Temporary
- 7 Aid to Needy Families;
- 8 (C) Have an income that is at two hundred percent or below the
- 9 federal poverty level;
- 10 (D) Are within nine months of their release from prison or
- 11 have been previously incarcerated; and
- (E) Currently reside or will reside in Kanawha, Cabell,
- 13 Raleigh, Mason, Mercer, McDowell, Wood, Randolph, Putnam or
- 14 Harrison Counties.
- 15 (2) Includes a course of instruction, that may include, but is
- 16 not limited to:
- 17 (A) Healthy marriage/relationship skills;
- 18 (B) Parenting skills;
- 19 (C) <u>Job seeking training that includes:</u>
- 20 (i) Knowledge of personal aptitudes, skills and preferences;
- 21 (ii) Knowledge of different types of employment opportunities;
- 22 (iii) Resume drafting, completion of a job application,
- 23 drafting a cover letter and follow-up letter; and

- 1 (iv) Interview skills;
- 2 (D) Vocational training;
- 3 (E) Basics of domestic violence; and
- 4 (F) Drug and/or alcohol addiction.
- 5 (3) Requires the successful completion of a transitional job
- 6 assignment.
- 7 (b) If a pilot project is implemented by the Division of
- 8 Corrections, it shall submit a report on the results of the pilot
- 9 project to the Interim Joint Committee on Judiciary each year
- 10 during implementation of the pilot project. The results shall
- 11 include, at a minimum:
- 12 <u>(1) Key process measures, including:</u>
- 13 (A) The number of participants served;
- 14 (B) The demographics of participants;
- 15 (C) Attendance/participation in training elements;
- 16 (D) The knowledge acquired by participants;
- 17 (E) Participant behavior changes as a result of program
- 18 participation;
- 19 (F) The number of participants gaining employment and their
- 20 wages earned;
- 21 (G) The number of participants completing vocational training;
- 22 (H) The number of participants successfully completing
- 23 transitional job assignments;

- 1 (I) The number of participants demonstrating workforce
- 2 readiness; and
- 3 (J) The recidivism rate of participants.
- 4 (2) An unbiased comparison of the outcomes between program
- 5 participants and similarly situated persons not in the program.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to authorize a responsible parent pilot project by the Division of Corrections. The bill sets forth requirements to participate in the program and program goals. The bill also requires a report.

§25-8-1 is new; therefore, it has been completely underscored.