

# H. B. 3158

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(BY DELEGATE(S) M. POLING, STOWERS, PERRY,  
WILLIAMS, CAMPBELL, PETHTEL, WALKER, LAWRENCE,  
PASDON, SUMNER AND ROWAN)

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[Originating in the Committee on Education.]

(March 22, 2013)

A BILL to amend the code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §29A-3B-13, relating to legislative oversight of education system performance and progress; creating duty of legislative oversight commission on education accountability to examine certain results; providing purposes; and requiring annual report.

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

That the code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §29A-3B-13, to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 3B. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RULE MAKING.**

**§29A-3B-13. Monitoring performance and progress of West Virginia's primary and secondary education system.**

1        (a) In addition to other powers and duties assigned in this  
2 article and section eleven, article three-a of this chapter, the  
3 Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability  
4 shall annually examine the following:

5        (1) The results of efforts to better connect education and the  
6 workforce as determined by employer satisfaction on various  
7 measures of the education system including, but not limited to,  
8 the following:

9        (A) The knowledge and skills of recent graduates at various  
10 levels such as general high school, secondary career and  
11 technical education, post secondary career and technical  
12 education, occupational certificate programs and two-year  
13 associate degree programs; and

14        (B) Programs to assist with the specialized training for  
15 prospective and current employees;

16        (2) The results of efforts to enhance career and technical  
17 education including, but not limited to, efforts to promote career  
18 exploration in the middle school grades and cross-counseling

19 with post-secondary technical programs, increased career and  
20 technical program participation in secondary schools and career  
21 and technical centers and the establishment of program offerings  
22 that are linked seamlessly to technical certificate and technical  
23 degree programs that are responsive to workforce needs;

24 (3) The results of efforts to enhance the flexibility and  
25 authority of local school systems and schools to meet the state's  
26 educational objectives for student achievement through local  
27 level policy, planning and practices that are the most appropriate  
28 for their students, families, employers and community given the  
29 characteristics of their districts;

30 (4) The results of efforts to improve the operational effi-  
31 ciency of West Virginia's public elementary and secondary  
32 school system;

33 (5) The performance and progress of students on the state  
34 summative assessment, other state mandated assessments and the  
35 National Assessment of Educational Progress, including ten-year  
36 trend data, and the amount of instructional time consumed by  
37 state mandated assessments;

38 (6) In the case of a county in which the state board has  
39 intervened in the operation of the county, replaced the superin-

40 tendent and limited the authority of the county board for a five-  
41 year period, the state board shall report to the Legislative  
42 Oversight Commission on Education Accountability the board's  
43 plan for exiting the county and returning control to the county  
44 board. The plan shall include a projected time-line and shall be  
45 updated annually and reported each year until full control is  
46 returned to the county board; and

47 (7) The results of efforts to establish a comprehensive career  
48 development system for professional educators that includes, but  
49 is not limited to:

50 (A) Encouraging and supporting an interest in the teaching  
51 profession among middle and high school students and increas-  
52 ing their preparation for success in college;

53 (B) Increasing the academic and professional practice  
54 preparation of graduates from colleges of teacher education;

55 (C) Improving the efficiency and focus of professional  
56 development including, but not limited to:

57 (i) A comprehensive system of support for improving the  
58 professional practice of new and emerging teachers and princi-  
59 pals as provided in section three, article three-c, chapter

60 eighteen-a of this code, including, but not limited to, the methods  
61 used for providing support to address needs identified through  
62 the annual evaluation of professional personnel and the timeli-  
63 ness of the support and the methods used for new teacher  
64 induction and mentoring;

65 (ii) An efficient and least time consuming method for  
66 providing routine information and annually required professional  
67 development to professional personnel to meet requirements of  
68 statute and policy; and

69 (iii) An efficient system for uniform, effective professional  
70 development necessary to implement state initiatives, including  
71 changes in standards, assessments, instructional strategies and  
72 other major policies affecting teachers and building level  
73 administrators;

74 (D) Establishing a progression of required continuing  
75 education for periodic certificate renewal;

76 (E) Aligning course work and professional development  
77 allowed for salary progression with the knowledge and skills  
78 directly related to the profession of teaching in the public  
79 schools; and

80       (F) Establishing a pathway for master teachers to progress in  
81 teacher leadership positions without leaving the classroom  
82 completely.

83       (b) The purposes of this section are to maintain a consistent  
84 focus on major policy objectives and a method of accountability  
85 for improving performance and progress. The Legislative  
86 Oversight Commission on Education Accountability shall report  
87 annually to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and the  
88 Joint Committee on Government and Finance on its findings,  
89 along with any recommendations it considers necessary.

Note: This bill requires the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability to examine and report annually on the results of efforts to address six areas related to the Efficiency Audit and general progress on improving public education. The six areas are: (1) Better connecting education and the workforce; (2) Enhancing career and technical education; (3) Enhancing the flexibility and authority of local school systems and schools to meet the state's educational objectives for student achievement; (4) Improve the operational efficiency of West Virginia's public elementary and secondary school system; (5) Performance and progress of students on the state summative assessment, other state mandated assessments and the National Assessment of Educational Progress; (6) Requiring the state board to report to LOCEA its exit plan from any county that has been under state take-over for five years; and (7) Establishing a comprehensive career development system for professional educators.

This section is new and, therefore, is completely underscored.



