

H. B. 2563

(By Delegates Ihle, Faircloth, Kessinger, Moffatt, McGeehan,
Householder, Hill, Folk, Rowan, Frich and Canterbury)

[Introduced February 2, 2015; referred to the
Committee on Education then the Judiciary.]

A BILL to amend and reenact §18-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring the State Superintendent of Schools to be elected on a nonpartisan basis for four year terms.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §18-3-1 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 3. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

§18-3-1. Appointment; qualifications; compensation; traveling expenses; office and residence; evaluation.

(a) There shall be appointed by the state board a State Superintendent of Schools who serves at the will and pleasure of the state board. He or she shall be a person of good moral character, shall be able to perform the duties listed in this article and possess such other educational, administrative, experiential and other qualifications as determined by the State Board of Education. He or she shall hold at least a master's degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education or

1 equivalent degree as determined by the state board. He or she shall receive an annual salary set by
2 the state board, to be paid monthly. The State Superintendent also shall receive necessary traveling
3 expenses incident to the performance of his or her duties to be paid out of the General School Fund
4 upon warrants of the State Auditor. The State Superintendent shall have his or her office at the State
5 Capitol. The state board shall report to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education
6 Accountability upon request concerning its progress during any hiring process for a state
7 superintendent.

8 **(b)** The state board annually shall evaluate the performance of the State Superintendent and
9 publicly announce the results of the evaluation.

10 **(c)** Beginning in 2018 the State Superintendent of Schools shall be elected on a nonpartisan
11 basis for four year terms.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide that beginning in 2018 the State Superintendent of Schools will be elected on a nonpartisan basis for four-year terms.

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