

**H. B. 2606**

(By Delegates Sponaugle and Shott)  
[Introduced February 4, 2015; referred to the  
Committee on the Judiciary.]

A BILL to amend and reenact §61-6-1b of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to clarifying the potential sentence for disorderly conduct.

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

That §61-6-1b of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 6. CRIMES AGAINST THE PEACE.**

**§61-6-1b. Disorderly conduct; penalty.**

(a) Any person who, in a public place, any office or office building of the State of West Virginia, or in the State Capitol complex, or on any other property owned, leased, occupied or controlled by the State of West Virginia, a mobile home park, a public parking area, a common area of an apartment building or dormitory, or a common area of a privately owned commercial shopping center, mall or other group of commercial retail establishments, disturbs the peace of others by violent, profane, indecent or boisterous conduct or language or by the making of unreasonably loud

1 noise that is intended to cause annoyance or alarm to another person, and who persists in such  
2 conduct after being requested to desist by a law-enforcement officer acting in his or her lawful  
3 capacity, is guilty of disorderly conduct, a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, may be  
4 ~~committed to the custody of the Division of Corrections~~ confined in jail for twenty-four hours or  
5 fined not more than \$100: *Provided*, That nothing in this subsection should be construed as a  
6 deterrence to the lawful and orderly public right to demonstrate in support or protest of public policy  
7 issues.

8 (b) For purposes of this section:

9 (1) "Mobile home park" means a privately owned residential housing area or subdivision  
10 wherein the dwelling units are comprised mainly of mobile homes and wherein the occupants of such  
11 dwelling units share common elements for purposes of ingress and egress, parking, recreation and  
12 other like residential purposes.

13 (2) "Mobile home" means a moveable or portable unit, designed and constructed to be towed  
14 on its own chassis (comprised of frame and wheels) and designed to be connected to utilities for  
15 year-round occupancy. The term includes: (A) Units containing parts that may be folded, collapsed  
16 or telescoped when being towed and that may be expanded to provide additional cubic capacity; and  
17 (B) units composed of two or more separately towable components designed to be joined into one  
18 integral unit capable of being separated again into the components for repeated towing.

19 (3) "Public parking area" means an area, whether publicly or privately owned or maintained,  
20 open to the use of the public for parking motor vehicles.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to clarify the potential sentence for disorderly conduct by removing language that a person may be "committed to the custody of the Division of Corrections" rather than "confined in jail" which is inserted.

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