

# WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

## 2016 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

### House Bill 2267

FISCAL  
NOTE

2015 Carryover

(BY DELEGATES WALTERS, HOUSEHOLDER, BUTLER,  
CANTERBURY, STANSBURY, R. PHILLIPS, HAMRICK AND  
COWLES)

[Introduced January 13, 2016; referred to the  
Committee on Education then the Judiciary.]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a  
 2 new section, designated §18-5-13b, relating to authorizing a county school board to adopt  
 3 a policy that allows an inspirational message to be delivered by students at a student  
 4 assembly; providing policy requirements; and providing purpose.

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

1 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a  
 2 new section, designated §18-5-13b, to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 5. COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.**

**§18-5-13b. Authorizing a county board of education to adopt a policy permitting students  
 to deliver an inspirational message at a student assembly; providing policy  
 requirements and providing purpose.**

1 (a) Any county board of education may adopt a policy allowing an inspirational message  
 2 to be delivered by students at a student assembly. The policy must provide that students who  
 3 are responsible for organizing any student-led portion of a student assembly shall:

4 (1) Have sole discretion in determining whether an inspirational message is to be  
 5 delivered; and

6 (2) Choose the student volunteers who will deliver an inspirational message. The student  
 7 volunteers shall be solely responsible for the preparation and content of the inspirational  
 8 message.

9 (b) County school personnel may not:

10 (1) Participate in or otherwise influence, the determination of whether an inspirational  
 11 message is to be delivered or select the student volunteers who will deliver the inspirational  
 12 message; or

13 (2) Monitor or otherwise review the content of a student volunteer’s inspirational message.

- 14            (c) The purpose of this section is to provide students with the opportunity for formal or  
15 ceremonious observance of an occasion or event.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to authorize county school boards to adopt policies that allow students to deliver an inspirational message at a student assembly, to provide policy requirements, and to provide the purpose for the authority.

This section is new; therefore it has been completely underscored.