

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2016 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 4621

BY DELEGATES WALTERS AND FRICH

[Introduced February 19, 2016; Referred
to the Committee on Finance.]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §31A-4-26 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
 2 to defining unimpaired capital and unimpaired surplus for purposes of calculating the
 3 lending limit of a state-chartered bank.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That §31A-4-26 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and
 2 reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 4. BANKING INSTITUTIONS AND SERVICES GENERALLY.

§31A-4-26. Limitation on loans and extensions of credit; limitation on investments; loans to executive officers and directors of banks and employees of the banking department; exceptions; valuation of securities.

1 (a) (1) The total loans and extensions of credit made by a state-chartered banking
 2 institution to any one person or common enterprise and not fully secured, as determined in a
 3 manner consistent with subdivision (2) of this subsection, may not exceed fifteen percent of the
 4 unimpaired capital and unimpaired surplus of that state-chartered banking institution initially
 5 determined for the period such loan or extension of credit is made.

6 (2) Where the total loans and extensions of credit by a state-chartered banking institution
 7 to any one person or common enterprise are fully secured by readily marketable collateral having
 8 a market value, as determined by reliable and continuously available price quotations, at least
 9 equal to the outstanding amount of such loans and extensions, then the bank may provide such
 10 loans or extensions of up to ten percent of the unimpaired capital and unimpaired surplus of that
 11 state-chartered banking institution initially determined for the period such loan or extension is
 12 made. This limitation shall be separate from and in addition to the limitation contained in
 13 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

14 (3) For the purposes of this subsection:

15 (A) The term “loans and extensions of credit” includes all direct or indirect advances of
 16 funds to a person made on the basis of any obligation of that person to repay the funds or

17 repayable from specific property pledged by or on behalf of the person and to the extent specified
18 by the Commissioner of ~~Banking~~ Financial Institutions; the terms also include any liability of a
19 state-chartered banking institution to advance funds to or on behalf of a person pursuant to a
20 contractual commitment;

21 (B) The term "person" includes an individual, partnership, sole proprietorship, society,
22 association, firm, institution, company, public or private corporation, not-for-profit corporation,
23 state, governmental agency, bureau, department, division or instrumentality, political subdivision,
24 county commission, municipality, trust, syndicate, estate or any other legal entity whatsoever,
25 formed, created or existing under the laws of this state or any other jurisdiction;

26 (C) The term "unimpaired capital and unimpaired surplus" means the amount of ~~total~~
27 ~~equity tier 1 (core) capita, as defined in federal regulations, that is~~ outstanding as indicated in the
28 bank's most recent quarterly report of condition and income as filed with the Commissioner of
29 Banking Financial Institutions pursuant to section nineteen of this article, plus the amount of the
30 allowance for loan losses; ~~minus the amount of goodwill or other nonmarketable intangible assets~~
31 ~~included in the quarterly report pursuant to generally accepted accounting principles. Unrealized~~
32 ~~gains and losses on the bank's securities and loan portfolios shall be included in the calculation~~
33 ~~of total equity capital to the extent required by generally accepted accounting principles and~~
34 ~~applicable federal or state law, rule or regulation and~~

35 (D) The term "common enterprise" includes, but is not limited to, persons and entities who
36 are so related by business or otherwise that the expected source of repayment on the loan or
37 extension of credit is substantially the same for each person or entity.

38 (4) The limitations contained in this subsection are subject to the following exceptions:

39 (A) Loans or extensions of credit arising from the discount of commercial or business
40 paper evidencing an obligation to the person negotiating it with recourse are not subject to any
41 limitation based on capital and surplus;

42 (B) The purchase of bankers' acceptances of the kind described in section thirteen of the

43 Federal Reserve Act and issued by other banks are not subject to any limitation based on capital
44 and surplus;

45 (C) Loans and extensions of credit having a term of ten months or less and secured by
46 bills of lading, warehouse receipts or similar documents transferring or securing title to readily
47 marketable staples are subject to a limitation of twenty percent of unimpaired capital and
48 unimpaired surplus in addition to the general limitations set forth in subdivision (1) of this
49 subsection, provided the market value of the staples securing each additional loan or extension
50 of credit at all times equals or exceeds one hundred fifteen percent of the outstanding amount of
51 such loan or extension of credit. The staples shall be fully covered by insurance whenever it is
52 customary to insure the staples. If collateral values of the staples fall below the levels required
53 herein, to the extent that the loan is no longer in conformance with its collateral requirements and
54 exceeds the general fifteen percent limitation, the loan must be brought into conformance within
55 five business days, except where judicial proceedings, regulatory actions or other extraordinary
56 occurrences prevent the bank from taking action;

57 (D) Loans or extensions of credit secured by bonds, notes, certificates of indebtedness or
58 treasury bills of the United States or by other such obligations fully guaranteed as to principal and
59 interest by the United States or by bonds, notes, certificates of indebtedness which are general
60 obligations of the State of West Virginia or by other such obligations fully guaranteed as to
61 principal and interest by the State of West Virginia are not subject to any limitation based on
62 capital and surplus;

63 (E) Loans or extensions of credit to or secured by unconditional takeout commitments or
64 guarantees of any department, agency, bureau, board, commission or establishment of the United
65 States or of the State of West Virginia or any corporation wholly owned directly or indirectly by
66 the United States are not subject to any limitation based on capital and surplus;

67 (F) Loans or extensions of credit secured by a segregated deposit account in the lending
68 bank are not subject to any limitation based on capital and surplus;

69 (G) Loans or extensions of credit to any banking institution or to any receiver, conservator
70 or other agent in charge of the business and property of such banking institution or other federally
71 insured depository institution, when the loans or extensions of credit are approved by the
72 Commissioner of ~~Banking~~ Financial Institutions, are not subject to any limitation based on capital
73 and surplus;

74 (H) (i) Loans and extensions of credit arising from the discount of negotiable or
75 nonnegotiable installment consumer paper which carries a full recourse endorsement or
76 unconditional guarantee by the person or common enterprise transferring the paper are subject
77 under this section to a maximum limitation equal to twenty-five percent of such unimpaired capital
78 and unimpaired surplus, notwithstanding the collateral requirements set forth in subdivision (2) of
79 this subsection;

80 (ii) If the bank's files or the knowledge of its officers of the financial condition of each maker
81 of consumer paper is reasonably adequate and an officer of the bank designated for that purpose
82 by the board of directors of the bank certifies in writing that the bank is relying primarily upon the
83 responsibility of each maker for payment of such loans or extensions of credit and not upon any
84 full or partial recourse endorsement or guarantee by the transferor, the limitations of this section
85 as to the loans or extensions of credit of each such maker are the sole applicable loan limitations;

86 (I) (i) Loans and extensions of credit secured by shipping documents or instruments
87 transferring or securing title covering livestock or giving a lien on livestock when the market value
88 of the livestock securing the obligation is not at any time less than one hundred fifteen percent of
89 the face amount of the note covered shall be subject under this section to a maximum limitation
90 equal to twenty-five percent of the unimpaired capital and unimpaired surplus, notwithstanding
91 the collateral requirements set forth in subdivision (2) of this subsection;

92 (ii) Loans and extensions of credit which arise from the discount by dealers in livestock of
93 paper given in payment for livestock, which paper carries a full recourse endorsement or
94 unconditional guarantee of the seller and which are secured by the livestock being sold, are

95 subject under this section to a limitation of twenty-five percent of the unimpaired capital and
96 unimpaired surplus, notwithstanding the collateral requirements set forth in subdivision (2) of this
97 subsection;

98 (iii) If collateral values of the livestock documents, instruments or discount paper fall below
99 the levels required herein, to the extent that the loan is no longer in conformance with its collateral
100 requirements and exceeds the general fifteen percent limitation, the loan must be brought into
101 conformance within thirty business days, except where judicial proceedings, regulatory actions or
102 other extraordinary occurrences prevent the bank from taking action;

103 (J) Loans or extensions of credit to the Student Loan Marketing Association are not subject
104 to any limitation based on capital and surplus; and

105 (K) Loans or extensions of credit to a corporation owning the property in which that state-
106 chartered banking institution is located, when that state-chartered banking institution has an
107 unimpaired capital and surplus of not less than \$1 million or when approved in writing by the
108 Commissioner of ~~Banking~~ Financial Institutions, are not subject to any limitation based on capital
109 and surplus.

110 (5) (A) The Commissioner of ~~Banking~~ Financial Institutions may prescribe rules to
111 administer and carry out the purposes of this subsection including rules to define or further define
112 terms used in this subsection and to establish limits or requirements other than those specified in
113 this subsection for particular classes or categories of loans or extensions of credit;

114 (B) The Commissioner of ~~Banking~~ Financial Institutions may also prescribe rules to deal
115 with loans or extensions of credit, which were not in violation of this section prior to the effective
116 date of this article, but which will be in violation of this section upon the effective date of this article;
117 and

118 (C) The Commissioner of ~~Banking~~ Financial Institutions may also determine when a loan
119 putatively made to a person is, for purposes of this subsection, attributed to another person.

120 (b) (1) Except as hereinafter provided or otherwise permitted by law, nothing herein

121 contained authorizes the purchase by a state-chartered banking institution for its own account of
122 any shares of stock of any corporation: *Provided*, That a state-chartered banking institution may
123 purchase and sell securities and stock without recourse, solely upon the order and for the account
124 of customers.

125 (2) The total amount of investment securities of any one obligor or maker held by a state-
126 chartered banking institution for its own account may not exceed that percentage of the
127 unimpaired capital and unimpaired surplus of that state-chartered banking institution as is
128 permitted for investment by national banks or for any federally insured depository institution.

129 (3) For purposes of this subsection:

130 (A) The term "investment securities" means a marketable obligation in the form of a stock,
131 bond, note or debenture commonly regarded as an investment security and that is salable under
132 ordinary circumstances with reasonable promptness at a fair value. "Derivative security" means
133 a type of investment security involving a financial contract whose value depends on the values of
134 one or more underlying assets or indexes of asset values. The term "derivative" refers inter alia
135 to financial contracts such as collateralized mortgage obligations, forwards, futures, forward rate
136 agreements, swaps, options and caps/floors/collars whose primary purpose is to transfer price
137 risks associated with fluctuations in asset values;

138 (B) The term "person" includes any individual, partnership, sole proprietorship, society,
139 association, firm, institution, company, public or private corporation, not-for-profit corporation,
140 state, governmental agency, bureau, department, division or instrumentality, political subdivision,
141 county commission, municipality, trust, syndicate, estate or any other legal entity whatsoever,
142 formed, created or existing under the laws of this state or any other jurisdiction; and

143 (C) The term "unimpaired capital and unimpaired surplus" has the same meaning as set
144 forth in subsection (a) of this section.

145 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, a state-chartered banking
146 institution may invest its funds in any investment authorized for national banking associations or

147 for any other federally insured depository institution. The investments by state-chartered banking
148 institutions shall be on the same terms and conditions applicable to national banking associations
149 or any other federally insured depository institution: *Provided, That:* (i) The purchase of
150 investment securities under this subdivision may be made only when in the bank's prudent
151 judgment, which judgment may be based in part on estimates which it believes to be reliable,
152 there is adequate evidence that the obligor will be able to perform all it undertakes to perform in
153 connection with the securities, including all debt service requirements, and that the securities may
154 be sold with reasonable promptness at a price that corresponds to their fair value; and (ii) the
155 purchase conforms to the requirement of subdivision (5) of this subsection. The Commissioner of
156 ~~Banking~~ Financial Institutions may, from time to time, provide notice to state-chartered banking
157 institutions of authorized investments under this paragraph.

158 (5) The purchase of investment securities, including derivative securities, in which the
159 investment characteristics are considered distinctly or predominantly speculative, or the purchase
160 of such securities that are in default, whether as to principal or interest, is prohibited. The proper
161 management of interest rate risk through the use of derivative or other investment securities may
162 not be held a speculative purpose.

163 (6) The Commissioner of ~~Banking~~ Financial Institutions may prescribe rules to administer
164 and carry out the purposes of this subsection, including rules to define or further define terms
165 used in this subsection and to establish limits or requirements other than those specified in this
166 subsection for particular classes or categories of investment securities.

167 (c) If there is a material decline of unimpaired capital and unimpaired surplus of a state-
168 chartered bank during any quarterly reporting period of more than twenty percent from that
169 amount reported in the bank's most recent report of income and condition, or where there is a
170 decrease of more than thirty percent in any twelve-month period, the bank shall review its
171 outstanding loans, extensions of credit and investments and report to the Commissioner of
172 ~~Banking~~ Financial Institutions those loans, extensions and investments that exceed the limitations

173 of this section using the bank's current reevaluated unimpaired capital and unimpaired surplus.
174 The report shall detail the bank's position in each such loan, extension of credit and investment.
175 The commissioner may, within his or her discretion, require that such loans, extensions of credit
176 and investments be brought into conformity with the bank's current reevaluated legal lending and
177 investment limitation.

178 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, in order to ensure a bank's safety
179 and soundness, the Commissioner of ~~Banking~~ Financial Institutions retains the authority to direct
180 any state-chartered bank to recalculate its lending and investment limits at more frequent intervals
181 than otherwise provided herein and to require all outstanding loans, extensions of credit and
182 investments be brought into conformance with the reevaluated limitations. In such cases, the
183 commissioner will provide the bank a written notice explaining briefly the specific reasons why the
184 determination was made to require the more frequent calculations.

185 (e) Loans to directors or executive officers are subject to the following limitations:

186 (1) A director or executive officer of any banking institution may not borrow, directly or
187 indirectly, from a banking institution with which he or she is connected any sum of money without
188 the prior approval of a majority of the board of directors or discount committee of the banking
189 institution, or of any duly constituted committee whose duties include those usually performed by
190 a discount committee. The approval shall be by resolution adopted by a majority vote of the board
191 or committee, exclusive of the director or executive officer to whom the loan is made.

192 (2) If any director or executive officer of any bank owns or controls a majority of the stock
193 of any corporation, or is a partner in any partnership, a loan to the corporation or partnership
194 constitutes a loan to the director or officer.

195 (3) For purposes of this subsection, an "executive officer" means:

196 (A) A person who participates or has authority to participate, other than in the capacity of
197 a director, in major policy-making functions of the company or bank, regardless of any official title,
198 salary or other compensation. The chairman of the board, the president, every vice president, the

199 cashier, the secretary and the treasurer of a company or bank are considered executive officers
200 unless the officer is excluded, by resolution of the board of directors or by the bylaws of the bank
201 or company from participation, other than in the capacity of director, in major policy-making
202 functions of the bank or company and the officer does not actually participate therein.

203 (B) An executive officer of a company of which the bank is a subsidiary, and any other
204 subsidiary of that company, unless the executive officer of the subsidiary is excluded, by name or
205 by title, from participation in major policy-making functions of the bank by resolutions of the boards
206 of directors of both the subsidiary and the bank and does not actually participate in such major
207 policy-making functions.

208 (4) Prior approval under subdivision (1) of this subsection is not required for:

209 (A) Payments of overdrafts pursuant to: (i) A written, preauthorized, interest-bearing
210 extension of credit plan that has been approved by the board of directors or an appropriate
211 committee and that specifies a method of repayment; or (ii) a written, preauthorized transfer of
212 funds from another account of the account holder at the bank; or

213 (B) Payments of inadvertent overdrafts on an account in an aggregate amount of \$1,000
214 or less: *Provided, That:* (i) The account is not overdrawn for more than five consecutive business
215 days; and (ii) the bank charges the director or executive officer the same fee charged to any other
216 customer of the bank in similar circumstances.

217 (f) An employee of the Division of ~~Banking~~ Financial Institutions whose regulatory activities
218 involve participation in an examination, audit, visitation, review, investigation or any other
219 particular matter involving depository institutions chartered by the division may not borrow, directly
220 or indirectly, any sum of money from a state-chartered bank or state-chartered credit union. An
221 employee of the Division of ~~Banking~~ Financial Institutions whose regulatory activities involve
222 participation in an examination, audit, visitation, review, investigation or any other particular matter
223 involving nondepository institutions licensed by the division may not borrow, directly or indirectly,
224 any sum of money from a nondepository entity that is licensed by the division. The commissioner,

225 deputy commissioner and in-house legal counsel of the Division of ~~Banking~~ Financial Institutions
226 may not borrow, directly or indirectly, any sum of money from any entity that is under the
227 jurisdiction of the division.

228 (g) Securities purchased by a state-chartered banking institution shall be entered upon the
229 books of the bank at actual cost. For the purpose of calculating the undivided profits applicable to
230 the payment of dividends, securities may not be valued at a valuation exceeding their present
231 cost as determined by amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts pursuant to generally
232 accepted accounting principles, that is, by charging to profit and loss a sum sufficient to bring
233 them to par at maturity: *Provided*, That securities held for trade or permissible marketable equity
234 securities and any other types of debt securities which pursuant to generally accepted accounting
235 principles are to be carried on the bank's books at fair market value shall have the unrealized
236 market appreciation and depreciation included in the income and capital as permitted by generally
237 accepted accounting principles.

238 (h) The market value of securities purchased and loans extended by a state-chartered
239 banking institution shall be reported in all public reports and quarterly reports to the commissioner
240 pursuant to section nineteen of this article in accordance with generally accepted accounting
241 principles and any applicable state or federal law, rule or regulation.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to make the definition of total capital for purposes of calculating a state-chartered bank's lending limit, consistent with the definition of total capital reported quarterly to the Commissioner of Financial Institutions.

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