

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**2017 REGULAR SESSION**

**Committee Substitute**

**for**

**House Bill 2898**

BY MR. SPEAKER (MR. ARMSTEAD)

[Introduced March 9, 2017; Referred  
to the Committee on the Judiciary.]



1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,  
2 designated §4-3-6, relating to authorizing the Joint Committee on Government and  
3 Finance to request and obtain criminal background checks of employees of the  
4 Legislature.

*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 new  
2 section, designated §4-3-6, to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 3. JOINT COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AND FINANCE.**

**§4-3-6. Authority to screen employees of the Legislature; background checks.**

1 The Joint Committee on Government and Finance shall create and implement a  
2 background check program to facilitate the processing and analysis of the criminal history and  
3 background of applicants for employment by the Legislature. In the course of determining an  
4 applicant's eligibility for employment with the Legislature, the legislative manager shall request  
5 each applicant to submit a full set of fingerprints for the purpose of conducting a criminal history  
6 record check. Records shall be checked through the Criminal Identification Bureau of the West  
7 Virginia State Police and the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal  
8 history record check and the results shall be made available to the Director of the Division of  
9 Protective Services. If the results of the criminal history check reveal an offense or offenses, the  
10 Director of the Division of Protective Services shall advise the President of the Senate, the  
11 Speaker of the House of Delegates or the joint committee depending on the appropriate hiring  
12 authority for the position sought by the applicant.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Joint Committee on Government and Finance to request and obtain criminal background information about prospective employees of the Legislature.

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