

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2019 REGULAR SESSION

Enrolled

Committee Substitute

for

Senate Bill 329

SENATORS CLINE AND HAMILTON, *original sponsors*

[Passed March 8, 2019; in effect 90 days from
passage]

1 AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
2 designated §18-2E-8g, relating to agricultural education in high schools; setting forth
3 findings; encouraging agricultural programs be made available to high school students;
4 requiring State Department of Education to assist in establishing agricultural programs in
5 certain instance; and requiring report to Legislative Oversight Commission on Education
6 Accountability when funding is the primary reason that an agricultural program is not
7 established.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2E. HIGH QUALITY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.

§18-2E-8g. Creating successful careers through agricultural education.

1 (a) *Findings and intent.* — The Legislature finds that through agricultural education
2 students are provided opportunities for leadership development, personal growth, and career
3 success in the science, business, and technology of agriculture. Quality agricultural education
4 instruction is delivered through three major components of classroom and laboratory instruction,
5 supervised agricultural experience programs, and student leadership organizations such as the
6 National Future Farmers of America (FFA) Organization. The Legislature further finds that
7 opportunities to prepare for career success in the science, business, and technology of agriculture
8 should be available to every West Virginia high school student.

9 (b) To provide opportunities for all state high school students to prepare for successful
10 careers in agriculture and related fields, beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, school districts
11 and multicounty vocational centers are encouraged to make available agricultural programs to
12 high school students, including, but not limited to, such programs that would allow for and support
13 the establishment of a local FFA chapter. Upon the request of any district or multicounty vocational
14 center that does not have an agricultural program, the State Department of Education shall assist
15 the district or multicounty vocational center in establishing agricultural programs available to high
16 school students in the district. To the extent that funding is the primary reason that an agricultural

- 17 program is not established, the State Department of Education shall report the same to the
18 Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

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Chairman, Senate Committee

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Chairman, House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect 90 days from passage.

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Clerk of the Senate

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Clerk of the House of Delegates

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Delegates

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Day of, 2019.

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Governor