

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2019 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2039

FISCAL
NOTE

BY DELEGATES CAPUTO AND ROWAN

[Introduced January 9, 2019; Referred
to the Committee on Education then Finance.]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §18-5-20 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
2 to county boards of education; school libraries; requiring each school to have a certified
3 library media specialist; and requiring the board to develop professional standards and the
4 salary for the certified library media specialist.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 5. COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.

§18-5-20. School libraries; librarian.

1 (a) The board may provide libraries for its schools and may purchase books, bookcases,
2 and other things necessary therefor, and shall pay the cost of ~~such~~ the libraries out of school
3 funds of the county. In connection with any ~~such~~ school library, the board may employ a full-time
4 librarian or may require one of the teachers at the school to serve as a part-time librarian. Any
5 ~~such~~ full-time librarian or any ~~such~~ teacher-librarian, who holds a degree in library science based
6 upon the successful completion of a full year of graduate work at an institution qualified and
7 approved to offer such degree, and who holds a collegiate elementary, first-class high school, or
8 other certificate of equal rank, shall be paid the same salary as is prescribed by law for teachers
9 holding a master's degree.

10 (b) The board ~~shall have~~ has authority to employ during the vacation period a librarian for
11 any school having a library of one hundred or more volumes, and to pay ~~such~~ the librarian out of
12 the school funds of the county an amount to be determined by the board. Any librarian so
13 appointed shall keep the library open at least one day a week, at which time the patrons and
14 pupils of the school may draw books from the library under such rules and regulations for the care
15 and return thereof as the board may prescribe.

16 (c) The board shall employ in each school a certified library media specialist whose
17 professional standards and salary shall be developed and determined by the West Virginia Board
18 of Education.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require county boards of education to employ a certified library media specialist in each county school. The bill also requires the board to develop professional standards and the salary for the certified library media specialist.

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