

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2022 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 4031

BY DELEGATES CONLEY, KIMBLE, G. WARD, HORST,
MAZZOCCHI, PHILLIPS, PRITT, LONGANACRE, KIMES, J.
JEFFRIES, AND MCGEEHAN

[Introduced January 12, 2022; Referred to the
Committee on Health and Human Resources then the
Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
 2 designated §16-1-22; and to amend said code by adding thereto a new section,
 3 designated §16-2-18, all relating to prohibiting mask mandates by the State of West
 4 Virginia; and prohibiting local health departments in West Virginia from instituting any type
 5 of mandatory mask mandate or face covering requirement.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 1. STATE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM.

§16-1-22. Face covering and mask mandates prohibited.

1 The State of West Virginia shall not implement any sort of mandatory face covering or
 2 mask requirement, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic or otherwise. The requirements of
 3 §61-6-22 of this Code relating to the wearing of masks, hoods or face coverings shall still apply.

ARTICLE 2. LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH.

§16-2-18. Prohibition on face coverings and mask mandates.

1 Local boards of health in West Virginia shall not implement any mandatory face covering
 2 or mask requirement, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic or otherwise. The requirements of
 3 §61-6-22 of this Code relating to the wearing of masks, hoods or face coverings shall still apply.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to prohibit a mask or face covering requirement by the State of West Virginia or by local boards of health in West Virginia in response to the COVID-19 pandemic or otherwise.

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