

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 4849

By Delegate Adkins

[Introduced January 17, 2024; Referred to the
Committee on Political Subdivisions then the
Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §8-10-1b of said code, relating to allowing the mayors of Class IV
2 towns or villages to also serve as the chief of police during their service as mayor.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 10. POWERS AND DUTIES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS.

§8-10-1b. Authority to appoint police chief; reinstating to previous rank.

1 (a) Unless otherwise provided by charter, the mayor of a Class III city or Class IV town or
2 village that has a paid police department that is not subject to the civil services provisions set out in
3 article fourteen of this chapter, may appoint a chief of police.

4 (b) A Class III city or Class IV town or village may provide by ordinance whether the
5 individual appointed chief of police who held a position as a member of the paid police department
6 prior to his or her appointment as chief of police shall be reinstated to the officer's previous rank
7 following his or her term as chief of police.

8 (c) A mayor of a Class IV town or village may also serve as chief of police during his or her
9 term(s) as mayor if there are no other willing and qualified police officers working for the paid police
10 department of that town or village.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to allow the mayors of Class IV towns or villages to also serve as the chief of police during their service as mayor.

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