

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Engrossed

Committee Substitute

for

Senate Bill 503

BY SENATORS GRADY, TAYLOR, MAYNARD, ROBERTS,

DEEDS, AZINGER, AND RUCKER

[Originating in the Committee on the Judiciary;

reported February 24, 2024]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §18B-20-5 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
2 to prohibiting state institutions of higher education from discriminating against student
3 organizations which limit membership to those persons who adhere to the organization's
4 sincerely held beliefs, comply with the organization's standards of conduct, and further the
5 organization's mission, expression, or purpose.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 20. FREE EXPRESSION ON CAMPUS.

§18B-20-5. Freedom of association and nondiscrimination against students and student organizations.

1 A state institution of higher education may not deny a religious, political, or ideological
2 student organization ~~which is open to all students~~ any benefit or privilege made generally available
3 to ~~any~~ other student ~~organization~~ organizations, or otherwise discriminate against ~~an~~ the
4 organization based on a requirement of the organization that its leaders and members:

5 ~~the expression of the organization;~~

6 (1) Affirm and adhere to the organization's sincerely held beliefs;

7 (2) Comply with the organization's standards of conduct; and

8 (3) Further the organization's mission, expression, or purpose.