

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2025 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 207

By Senator Tarr

[Introduced February 12, 2025; referred
to the Committee on the Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section,
2 designated §61-8D-4b, relating to providing a definition of drag shows; prohibiting funding
3 from governmental entities for drag shows; prohibiting minors from being involved in or
4 attending drag shows; and providing for penalties associated with violations of these
5 provisions.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 8D. CHILD ABUSE.

§61-8D-4b. Definition; prohibition on state funding for drag shows; prohibition on minors at drag shows; penalties.

1 (a) Drag shows are defined as any event that involve adults engaging in entertainment put
2 on by drag artists, or people who put on clothes and makeup that amplify the appearance of
3 gender to impersonate men or women.

4 (b) No funds from governmental entities in West Virginia may be used for organizing,
5 promoting, or hosting drag shows for any reason. Any governmental entity found to be in violation
6 of this section may have their funding restricted.

7 (c) All minors in West Virginia are prohibited from being involved in drag shows for any
8 reason. Additionally, drag shows may not be held in the presence of minors, with the responsibility
9 of checking the appropriate age of attendees to fall upon the organization or group holding the
10 drag show.

11 (d) Any adult or parental guardian of a minor who violates subsection (c) of this section, or
12 any entity hosting a drag show in violation of the provisions of this section, may be required to
13 complete parenting classes, substance abuse counseling, anger management counseling, or
14 other appropriate services, or any combination thereof, as determined by Department of Human
15 Services, Bureau for Children and Families through its services assessment evaluation, which
16 shall be submitted to the court of conviction upon written request.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide definitions, to prohibit public funding of drag

shows in West Virginia, and to prohibit minors from being involved in or attending drag shows.

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