



West Virginia Senate

Committee on Economic Development

Minutes for February 14, 2024, 1:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on Economic Development met on February 14, 2024, 1:00 PM in Room 451-M.

Members present: Senators Jeffries, Martin, Chapman, Hamilton, Hunt, Nelson, Oliverio, Queen, Roberts, Stover, Stuart, Swope, Tarr

Members absent: Senators Phillips, Plymale

A silent roll call being taken, the presence of a quorum was established.

On motion of Senator Martin, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Com. Sub. for S. B. 688 - Authorizing director of Division of Forestry to contract and manage forest land.

Chair Jeffries recognized counsel, Jay Lazell, to explain the bill and the proposed committee substitute, in lieu of having them read. Counsel explained and answered questions from the committee. With leave of the committee, Chair Jeffries recognized James Bailey, from WV Department of Commerce, to speak to the bill and answer questions from the committee. With leave of the committee, Chair Jeffries recognized Richie Heath, representing DF Development to speak to the bill and answer questions from the committee. After much discussion, Senator Stuart offered an amendment. Upon voice vote, the amendment was adopted. The committee agreed to the language of the committee substitute, as amended. Vice Chair Martin moved the committee substitute, as amended, be reported to the full senate with the recommendation that it do pass. Upon voice vote, the motion was adopted.

S. B. 690 - Establishing WV Agritourism Commission.

Chair Jeffries recognized counsel, Jay Lazell, to explain the bill and the proposed committee substitute, in lieu of having them read. Counsel explained. The committee agreed to the language of the committee substitute. Vice Chair Martin moved the committee substitute be reported to the full senate, with the recommendation that it do pass. Upon voice vote, the motion was adopted.

Other Business:

Chair Jeffries informed those present, that due to time constraints, HB 5127 will be taken up in the next scheduled meeting.

On Motion of Senator Martin the committee adjourned.



Glenn D. Jeffries

Chair



Tina L. Burs

Clerk