

SB 111

FILED

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OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
Regular Session, 2002



ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 177

(By Senator Bailey, et al)



PASSED January 29, 2002

In Effect ninety days from Passage

FILED

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Senate Bill No. 177

(BY SENATORS BAILEY, OLIVERIO, EDGELL, ANDERSON,
KESSLER, CALDWELL AND BURNETTE)

[Passed January 29, 2002; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend article two, chapter eighteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated section thirty-five, relating to providing a procedure for implementing a school dress code requiring student uniforms in public schools.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That article two, chapter eighteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section thirty-five, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

§18-2-35. Dress codes requiring school uniforms for students.

- 1 (a) The Legislature hereby finds that the clothing and
- 2 footwear worn by students in public schools often pre-

3 cupy and distract students from their major purpose for
4 being in school, which is obtaining an education. The
5 Legislature finds that in schools that have adopted a dress
6 code requiring students to wear school uniforms, dispari-
7 ties in student socioeconomic levels are less obvious and
8 disruptive incidents are less likely to occur.

9 (b) The state board shall promulgate rules in accordance
10 with article three-b, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code
11 that allow a county board to implement a dress code
12 requiring students to wear a school uniform. The uniforms
13 may be required by the county board for either a school
14 district, or for any certain school within the district. The
15 rules shall provide at least the following:

16 (1) The county board may create an advisory committee
17 comprised of parents, school employees and students for
18 the purpose of considering whether the board should adopt
19 a dress code requiring school uniforms for students in the
20 district;

21 (2) The county board may create an advisory committee
22 comprised of parents, school employees and students for
23 the purpose of considering whether the board should adopt
24 a dress code requiring school uniforms for students in any
25 certain school within the district;

26 (3) If the advisory committee recommends to the board
27 that a dress code requiring school uniforms for students be
28 adopted either for the district or for any certain school
29 within the district, the advisory committee also shall make
30 recommendations on alternative methods of paying for the
31 school uniforms; and

32 (4) If the advisory committee recommends to the board
33 that a dress code requiring school uniforms for students be
34 adopted either for the district or for any certain school
35 within the district and if the advisory committee reports
36 its recommendations on alternative methods of paying for
37 the school uniforms to the board, the board may adopt a
38 dress code requiring school uniforms for students.

39 (c) Nothing in this section requires a county board to
40 adopt a dress code requiring school uniforms for students.

41 (d) Nothing in this section requires any level of funding
42 by the Legislature, boards of education or any other
43 agency of government.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Larry Oliver
.....
Chairman Senate Committee

[Signature]
.....
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect ninety days from passage.

David Holmes
.....
Clerk of the Senate

Buzor D. Boy
.....
Clerk of the House of Delegates

Earl Ray Tomblin
.....
President of the Senate

[Signature]
.....
Speaker House of Delegates

The within *is appended* this the *7th*
Day of *January*, 2002.

[Signature]
.....
Governor

PRESENTED TO THE

GOVERNOR

Date 2/1/02

Time 10:25 am