1	Senate Bill No. 543
2	(By Senators Laird, Browning, Miller, Green, Stollings and
3	Chafin)
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5	[Introduced February 8, 2012; referred to the Committee on
6	Government Organization; and then to the Committee on Finance.]
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11	A BILL authorizing a Prince Railroad Station Authority to acquire
12	and maintain the railroad station building and the
13	appurtenances thereto located in Prince, West Virginia;
14	creating a public corporation; membership, terms and
15	compensation of the board; powers; exemption from taxation;
16	and dissolution of the authority.
17	Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:
18	PRINCE RAILROAD STATION AUTHORITY.
19	<pre>\$1. Legislative findings.</pre>
20	Since the railroad station located in Prince, West Virginia,
21	will be the primary stop for Boy Scouts riding trains to attend the
22	Bechtel Family Summit Scout Reserve in Fayette County, and since
23	the railroad station located in Prince is a vital transportation

1 facility for many residents in the area, and since the railroad 2 station located in Prince has potential for passenger inter-modal 3 operations, and since the railroad station located in Prince is 4 rich in railroad history and has architectural significance, the 5 Legislature finds that creating and empowering a statutory 6 corporation to work with railroad officials to acquire, renovate 7 and maintain the railroad station building and the appurtenances 8 thereto located in Prince, West Virginia, would be in the public 9 interest and would result in a better travel experience for all 10 persons coming to and leaving southern West Virginia.

### 11 §2. Prince Railroad Station Authority authorized.

12 The Fayette County commission and the Raleigh County 13 commission are hereby authorized to create and establish the Prince 14 Railroad Station Authority for the purpose of acquiring, 15 establishing, renovating, constructing, equipping, improving, 16 financing, maintaining, operating and leasing the railroad station 17 building and the appurtenances thereto located in Prince, West 18 Virginia.

# 19 §3. The authority to be a public corporation.

20 The Prince Railroad Station Authority when created and 21 established, and the members thereof, shall constitute a public 22 corporation and as such, shall have perpetual succession, may 23 contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued, and have and use

1 a common seal.

### 2 §4. Appointment of board; terms.

3 (a) The authority shall be governed by a nine-member board 4 which shall consist of the following members:

5 (1) A member of the Fayette County commission or a designee;
6 (2) A member of the Raleigh County commission or a designee;
7 (3) A member of the Southern West Virginia Convention and
8 Visitors Bureau or a designee;

9 (4) A member of the State Rail Authority or a designee;

10 (5) A member of the Fayette County Chamber of Commerce or a 11 designee;

12 (6) A member of the Raleigh County Chamber of Commerce or a 13 designee;

14 (7) The director of the Historic Preservation Section of the15 West Virginia Division of Culture and History or a designee;

16 (8) One professional member of the Boy Scouts of America 17 representing the Bechtel Family Summit Scout Reserve, appointed by 18 the Fayette County commission; and

(9) One citizen member, appointed by the Raleigh County 20 commission, who has a knowledge of and demonstrates an interest in 21 passenger railroads and is from southern West Virginia.

22 (b) The initial appointment terms for the appointed members of 23 the board shall be staggered. After the initial terms, the terms

1 for the appointed members of the board shall be five years and they
2 may be reappointed.

3 §5. Compensation of board members.

Each member of the board shall serve without compensation, but seach member shall be entitled to reimbursement by the authority for all reasonable and necessary expenses actually incurred in the performance of his or her duties as a board member.

## 8 §6. Board; quorum; bylaws.

9 (a) The board is the governing body of the authority and the 10 board shall exercise all the powers given to the authority. The 11 board shall meet at least quarterly and may meet on the call of 12 the chairperson.

(b) A majority of the members of the board constitutes a 14 quorum and a quorum must be present for the board to conduct 15 business. Unless the bylaws require a larger number, action may 16 be taken by majority vote of the members present.

17 (c) The board shall adopt bylaws and rules, as may be 18 necessary for its operation and management, governing the manner 19 in which the business of the authority is conducted and shall 20 develop and approve an annual budget.

# 21 §7. Powers of the authority.

22 The authority shall have the following powers:

23 (1) To make and adopt all necessary bylaws and rules for its

1 organization and operations not inconsistent with law;

2 (2) To elect its own officers, to appoint committees and to 3 employ and fix the compensation for personnel necessary for its 4 operation;

5 (3) To sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded and complain 6 and defend in any court;

7 (4) To execute contracts with any person, firm, corporation or 8 governmental agency;

9 (5) To obtain and maintain all necessary insurance;

10 (6) To insure that lessees maintain all necessary insurance;

11 (7) To delegate any authority given to it by law to any of its 12 officers, committees, agents or employees;

13 (8) To purchase, acquire, own, hold, sell, convey, lease and 14 dispose of property;

15 (9) To borrow money and execute negotiable notes and deeds of 16trust;

17 (10) To expend its funds in the execution of its powers;

18 (11) To apply for, accept, receive and use loans, grants, 19 gifts, donations, contributions, technical assistance from any 20 source;

21 (12) To insure that all applicable laws, rules and regulations 22 are followed; and

23 (13) To do any and all things necessary or convenient for the

1purpose of acquiring, establishing, renovating, constructing, 2 equipping, improving, financing, maintaining, operating and leasing 3 the railroad station building and the appurtenances thereto located 4 in Prince, West Virginia.

# 5 §8. Exemption from taxation.

6 The property, operations and activities of the authority are 7 exempt from the payment of any taxes or fees to the state or any of 8 its political subdivisions.

### 9§9. Dissolution of authority.

10 When the railroad station building and the appurtenances 11 thereto located in Prince, West Virginia, are no longer being used 12 for the purpose of a railroad station, then the authority shall 13 perform all its duties set out in the deed in which it acquired the 14 railroad station building and the appurtenances thereto and also all 15 the duties set out in the authority's bylaws to dispose of the 16 railroad station building and the appurtenances thereto. At the 17 conclusion of all of its duties, the authority shall dissolve.

NOTE: The purpose of this local bill is to authorize a Prince Railroad Station Authority to acquire and maintain the railroad station building and the appurtenances thereto located in Prince, West Virginia.