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ENROLLED

H. B. 3013

(By Mr. Speaker (Mr. Thompson) and Delegates Boggs,
Swartzmiller, Caputo, Miley, M. Poling, White, Perdue,
Morgan, Moye and D. Poling)

[Passed April 1, 2013; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §4-2B-1, relating to authorizing the establishment of job creation work groups to obtain information to assist the Legislature's efforts to take effective action to increase and attract jobs in West Virginia.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new article, designated §4-2B-1, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2B. WORK GROUPS.

§4-2B-1. Job creation work groups.

(a) (1) The Legislature finds that an array of economic development initiatives have been taken by the Legislature, the Governor and various agencies of the Executive to promote the growth of job opportunities for residents of the state, including,

1 but not limited to:

2 (A) An extensive reduction of business tax burdens, workers'
3 compensation reform, and significant investment in university
4 research;

5 (B) Providing new and expanding businesses with technical and
6 financial assistance to train, retrain and upgrade the skills of
7 their employees;

8 (C) Providing the curricula of an expanding Community and
9 Technical College System that is highly responsive to business and
10 workforce needs; and

11 (D) Broad based nationwide and global marketing of the
12 advantages of West Virginia as a place to do business, to work and
13 to live.

14 (2) These efforts are promoting a positive business climate
15 and continued business growth in the state. The Legislature finds,
16 however, that more can be done. The Legislature expects to
17 continuously examine and consider legislative proposals for further
18 actions that can be taken to increase jobs available in this state
19 by encouraging the expansion of existing industries and business,
20 both large and small, in this state, and by attracting to this
21 state new industries and businesses that will complement the
22 state's ongoing efforts to compete in the national and global
23 economies. The Legislature further finds that it can promote the
24 effectiveness of its consideration of these proposals as well as

1 provide a source of other ideas for the same by authorizing the
2 formation of job creation work groups to gather information in
3 person at locations within and outside the state in order to
4 observe first hand the best practices for job creation developed
5 elsewhere.

6 (b) The President of the Senate may establish one or more
7 Senate job creation work groups, composed of one or more members of
8 the Senate. The Speaker of the House of Delegates may establish
9 one or more House of Delegates job creation work groups, composed
10 of one or more members of the House of Delegates.

11 (c) Each job creation work group shall conduct its activities
12 under the direction of the appointing presiding officer,
13 independently or in cooperation with the Department of Commerce,
14 the West Virginia Development Office, or other executive office or
15 agency of the state. The work group shall conduct meetings and
16 visitations as it is directed by the appointing presiding officer
17 for the purposes of obtaining information available to assist the
18 Legislature's efforts to take effective action to increase and
19 attract jobs in West Virginia. The primary purpose of a job
20 creation workgroup is to become a resource for other members of its
21 respective house of the Legislature. The work group shall also meet
22 with existing businesses and organizations to further develop
23 resources currently available to expand upon and grow job
24 opportunities within the state. Each member of a job creation work

1 group may make proposals or recommendations on this subject as an
2 individual member of the Legislature. The work group exists until
3 terminated by the appointing presiding officer.

4 (d) The expenses of a job creation work group shall be paid
5 from the funds of the respective house in which it is established.
6 The members of the work group may receive no compensation for their
7 services other than actual expenses incurred in the discharge of
8 their duties as members of work group, subject to the limitations
9 provided for the reimbursement of travel and other expenses
10 incurred in the performance of duties as a member of the
11 Legislature under article two-a of this chapter.

12 (e) The provisions of this section expire and are of no force
13 and effect after December 31, 2014.