

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2018 REGULAR SESSION

Committee Substitute

for

House Bill 4511

BY DELEGATES SHOTT, HANSHAW, ELLINGTON, HOWELL,

FRICH, ZATEZALO AND ANDERSON

[Reported February 19, 2018.]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §62-1C-1a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
2 to the authorization to release a defendant or a person arrested upon his or her own
3 recognizance; requires a court or magistrate to release a person charged with certain
4 misdemeanor offenses on his or her own recognizance except for good cause shown.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 1C. BAIL.

§62-1C-1a. Release upon own recognizance authorized.

1 (a) Any other provision of this article to the contrary notwithstanding, when from all the
2 circumstances, the court or magistrate is of the opinion that the defendant or person arrested will
3 appear as may be required of him or her, either before or after conviction, such defendant or
4 person arrested may be released upon his or her own recognizance.

5 (b) Except for good cause shown, a court or magistrate shall release a person charged
6 with a misdemeanor offense on his or her own recognizance unless that person is charged with:

7 (1) A misdemeanor offense of actual violence or threat of violence against a person;

8 (2) A misdemeanor offense where the victim was a minor, as defined in §61-8C-1 of this
9 code;

10 (3) A misdemeanor offense involving the use of a deadly weapon, as defined in §61-7-2
11 of this code;

12 (4) A misdemeanor offense of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act set forth in Chapter
13 60A of this code; or

14 (5) A serious misdemeanor traffic offense set forth in §17C-5-1 et seq. and §17C-5-2 et
15 seq. of this code.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to modify misdemeanor bail requirements.

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