

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2019 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2658

BY DELEGATE MAYNARD, PAYNTER, JEFFRIES, J.,
SYPOLT, MILLER, PACK, LOVEJOY, JENNINGS, ANGELUCCI
AND WORRELL

[Introduced January 24, 2019; Referred
to the Committee on Fire Departments and
Emergency Medical Services then Government
Organization.]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §29-3-8 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
 2 to eliminating the State Fire Marshall’s comprehensive report regarding the transfer of
 3 authority and responsibility of providing fire services to the counties.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 3. FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL ACT.

§29-3-8. Comprehensive report by State Fire Marshal.

1 ~~(a) On or before July 1, 2019, the State Fire Marshal shall submit a comprehensive report~~
 2 ~~to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance containing a recommended plan for~~
 3 ~~transferring authority and responsibility for providing fire services to the counties. Such report~~
 4 ~~shall include, but not be limited to, recommendations regarding recommended state oversight of~~
 5 ~~such fire services; financial support for fire services, a plan and timeline for transitioning~~
 6 ~~responsibility and oversight to the counties; and county authority, oversight, and accountability of~~
 7 ~~operations, fiscal planning, financial accountability, and risk management planning. The State Fire~~
 8 ~~Marshal shall solicit input from appropriate state agencies, county officials, and other interested~~
 9 ~~parties, which shall provide requested information to the State Fire Marshal to assist in~~
 10 ~~preparation of the report and recommendation~~

11 ~~(b) On or before July 1, 2019, the State Fire Marshal shall study, prepare, and submit a~~
 12 ~~report to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance regarding reciprocity of firefighter and~~
 13 ~~fire officer certification with other states. Such report shall include recommendations regarding~~
 14 ~~ways to increase availability of reciprocal certification, including any necessary changes to state~~
 15 ~~code or regulation necessary to facilitate additional reciprocity.~~

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to eliminate the State Fire Marshall's comprehensive report regarding the transfer of authority and responsibility of fire services to the counties.

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