

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2020 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 723

BY SENATORS RUCKER, CLINE, STOLLINGS, AND

ROBERTS

[Introduced February 6, 2020; referred
to the Committee on Education]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
2 designated §18-2-43, relating to requiring the West Virginia Department of Education to
3 analyze statewide data collected on school disciplinary action and, based on the findings
4 of this data, develop a statewide program intended to address the number of disciplinary
5 actions taken by county school boards; and requiring the West Virginia Department of
6 Education to prepare a report on the findings and provide a summary of the progress of
7 the statewide program which shall be presented to the Legislative Oversight Commission
8 on Education Accountability every two years.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

§18-2-43. Addressing disciplinary action in West Virginia schools.

1 (a) The Department of Education shall analyze statewide data collected on school
2 disciplinary action and, based on the findings of this data, develop a statewide program intended
3 to address the number of disciplinary actions taken by county school boards against students
4 enrolled in grades K-12.

5 (b) The Department of Education shall prepare a report on the findings of statewide
6 disciplinary data and, in addition to these findings, provide a summary of the progress of the
7 statewide program, evaluating the extent to which the program has successfully led to making a
8 positive impact in disciplinary actions in West Virginia school systems. The Department of
9 Education shall present these findings to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education
10 Accountability every two years starting in the year 2022.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require the Department of Education to analyze data compiled annually on school discipline and to develop a statewide plan aimed at addressing the high volume of disciplinary actions taken by county boards. The Department of Education will report their findings to the Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability every two years beginning in 2022.

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