

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2021 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 454

FISCAL
NOTE

BY SENATOR MAYNARD

[Introduced February 25, 2021; referred
to the Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure; and then to the Committee on Finance]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
2 designated §17-4-56, relating generally to requiring the West Virginia Division of Highways
3 to establish an interactive website for road conditions; providing downloadable access to
4 road maps for offline viewing; allowing website users to annotate map notes with
5 comments and reports on road and surface conditions; providing a reporting procedure to
6 the Joint Committee Government and Finance; and providing an effective date.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 4. STATE ROAD SYSTEM.

§17-4-56. Establishment of an interactive website to monitor road conditions; reporting; effective date.

1 (a) Legislative findings - The Division of Highways maintains roadways across West
2 Virginia, but more often than not, the public does not know about the immediate condition of the
3 roads, with potential hazards such as wrecks, weather issues, etc. that could be shown before
4 traveling. The establishment of an interactive website by the Division that the public could add
5 comments to would provide a remedy for this issue, and the ability to allow for offline viewing
6 would help those West Virginians without immediate access to the internet to nevertheless view
7 road conditions in real-time.

8 (b) Establishment of Website - The Division of Highways shall provide downloadable
9 access to maps of roads in West Virginia maintained by the division for offline viewing by the
10 public. This map shall be interactive and shall allow website users to annotate map notes with
11 comments and reports on road and surface conditions. This Division of Highways shall appoint
12 an individual to monitor the website for inaccurate comments by members of the public and shall
13 ensure the accuracy of the information on the website.

14 (c) Reporting Procedure - On or before December 1, 2021, and annually thereafter, the
15 Commissioner of the Division of Highways shall submit a report to the Joint Committee on
16 Government and Finance detailing the status and progress of the interactive website directed in

17 subsection (b) of this section.

18 (d) *Effective Date* – This section shall become effective on July 1, 2021.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require the West Virginia DOH to provide the public with access to road maps for offline viewing, and to allow those website users to annotate map notes with comments and reports on road and surface conditions.

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