

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2022 REGULAR SESSION**

### **Originating**

## **Senate Bill 721**

BY SENATORS SWOPE, MARTIN, BROWN, HAMILTON,  
JEFFRIES, ROBERTS, ROMANO, TARR, WOELFEL, AND  
WOODRUM

[Originating in the Committee on Economic  
Development; reported on February 24, 2022]

1 A Bill to amend and reenact §7-12-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,  
2 relating to municipalities required to be represented on county authority boards.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

**ARTICLE 12. COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES.**

**§7-12-3. Management and control of county authority vested in board; appointment and  
terms of members; vacancies; removal of members.**

1 The management and control of a county authority, its property, operations, business, and  
2 affairs shall be lodged in a board of not fewer than ~~twelve~~ 12 nor more than ~~twenty-one~~ 21 persons  
3 who shall be appointed by the county commission and be known as members of the authority.  
4 The county commission shall appoint one member to represent the county commission on the  
5 board and, for each municipality with 1,000 or more residents located within the county, the county  
6 commission shall appoint one member to represent the municipality. The city and town council of  
7 each municipality with 1,000 or more residents located within the county shall submit to the county  
8 commission the names of three persons, one of whom the county commission shall appoint to be  
9 the municipality's representative on the board. Other members of the board shall be appointed by  
10 the county commission and shall include representatives of business, industry, and labor. The  
11 members of the authority first appointed shall serve respectively for terms of one year, two years,  
12 and three years, divided equally or as nearly equal as possible between these terms. Thereafter,  
13 members shall be appointed for terms of three years each. A member may be reappointed for  
14 such additional term or terms as the county commission may deem proper. If a member resigns,  
15 is removed, or for any other reason his or her membership terminates during his or her term of  
16 office, a successor shall be appointed by the county commission to fill out the remainder of his or  
17 her term. Members in office at the expiration of their respective terms shall continue to serve until  
18 their successors have been appointed and have qualified. The county commission may at any  
19 time remove any member of the board by an order duly entered of record and may appoint a  
20 successor member for any member so removed.

21           Other persons, firms, unincorporated associations, and corporations, who reside, maintain  
22 offices, or have economic interests, ~~as the case may be,~~ in the county, shall be eligible to  
23 participate in and request the county commission to appoint members to the development  
24 authority as the said authority shall by its bylaws provide.